

Hafa Adai!

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'Saipan power demand up 40 percent since 2016' **PAGE 5**

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75¢

## 'Pay hike violates Constitution'

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the 80-percent pay hike enacted through Public Law 19-83 violates the CNMI Constitution by failing to provide the requirements needed to enact a legislative pay hike.

After reviewing the petitions of both parties involved in the *Manibusan v. Larson* case, the Supreme Court ruled that the legislative increase enacted by Public Law 19-83 (as well as previous public laws enacting legislative salary hikes) was unconstitutional because it contravened at least one of the mandates in Section

See PAY on Page 4

## Pot bill heads to Torres

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

The bill that would legalize and regulate marijuana use in the CNMI is now headed to the desk of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres after the Sen-

### RELATED NEWS

► BOE fears marijuana would jeopardize federal funding. **PAGE 2**

ate, voting 6-2, passed House Bill 20-178 in yesterday's session on Capital Hill.

The administration, in a statement, said that they will do their part in reviewing the bill before Torres signs it into law. "We're not commenting on any legislation pending review of the

See POT on Page 4



IF LOTTERY COMMISSION  
FINALIZES EXTENSION

CCC: IPI deadline non-issue...

The Commonwealth Casino Commission convened yesterday at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library conference room.  
ERWIN ENCINARES

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission noted yesterday that the deadline for the construction of the Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan

would only become an issue if a decision to extend that deadline or not isn't finalized by the end of today.

Commenting on the Lottery Commission's decision to recess to further negotiate the extension parameters, commission executive director

Edward Deleon Guerrero noted that the deadline would only be an issue if not extended by the end of today.

The Lottery Commission has been meeting to discuss the deadline extension request of Imperial

See CCC on Page 4

## Decision on IPI requests out today

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Lottery Commission has until today to come out with a decision whether it would grant the request of Imperial Pacific International

al (CNM) LLC for a new deadline to finish building its casino-resort in Garapan.

If approved, this will be amendment No. 6 to the casino license agreement.

See DECISION on Page 4

## INSIDE



### ASIA

Behind a blue wall that seals a former highway tunnel stretches a massive indoor farm

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### SCIENCE & TECH

Uber is teaming up with Toyota to build self-driving cars for its ride-hailing service.

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### LIFE & STYLE

Ed Sheeran plays himself in Danny Boyle's next film, his first big role on the big screen.

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# Local

## BOE fears marijuana would jeopardize federal funding

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Board of Education fears that legalizing the medicinal and recreational use of cannabis on the islands could lead to a loss in its annual federal funding since marijuana remains illegal in the federal government's eyes.

In a letter dated Aug. 15, 2018, addressed to Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), BOE chair Marylou Ada stated the board's opposition to legalizing cannabis in the CNMI due to federal regulations governing schools.

She noted that, according to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, state educational agencies such as the Public School System, must maintain "drug-free schools" as a condition for federal funding.

"This bill, in its current form, prohibits the possession or use of marijuana on school campuses, unless the person has a 'valid recommendation for marijuana issued by a physician in the Commonwealth to engage in the use of marijuana,'" Ada noted, citing the legislation.

"This is unacceptable. Al-

lowing marijuana on campus would put our federal grants in jeopardy. As federal grantees of the Department of Education, among other agencies, PSS must pledge that it will maintain a drug-free workplace and campus. If marijuana is allowed on campus, with or without a prescription, we will be in violation of our grants," said Ada.

Federal funding provides about half of the total PSS budget.

The Senate passed House Bill 20-178, HD4 yesterday afternoon with a vote of six-for and two abstentions and one absence.

Federal agencies such as the Drug Enforcement Agency still considers cannabis as a Schedule I drug, along with heroine, lysergic acid diethylamide or LSD, ecstasy, and even psilocybin mushrooms, also known as magic mushrooms.

"It is of the utmost importance that PSS not lose its federal funding. That funding pays for infrastructure, books, and Title I teachers. This bill places that funding in jeopardy. Consequently, the BOE maintains its objection to the legalization of marijuana both medicinally and recreationally," Ada wrote.

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# Star Marianas suit against CPA dismissed

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The federal court dismissed without prejudice yesterday the second amended complaint filed by Star Marianas Air Inc against the Commonwealth Ports Authority in connection with their dispute over user fees.

Star Marianas may file a third amended complaint.

In granting the CPA's motion to dismiss, U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood ruled that because the Deregulation Act does not completely preempt state law, Star Marianas cannot assert preemption as the basis for federal jurisdiction in its complaint.

Furthermore, Tydingco-

Gatewood said, because the court has an independent duty to determine whether it has jurisdiction, the court finds that it lacks jurisdiction over the breach of contract claim against CPA and co-defendants for the same reasons as discussed with regard to CPA.

The judge said federal preemption is a defense that may provide for removal of cases involving state law to federal court, but it does not create federal question jurisdiction for a plaintiff attempting to file suit in federal court.

Star Marianas asserted that the court has federal preemption jurisdiction under the Airline Deregulation Act.

CPA responded that the preemption provision does not apply to the imposition of fees because the statute

does not limit it "from carrying out its proprietary powers and rights."

Tydingco-Gatewood found that there is no private right of action under the Federal Aviation Authorization Act and therefore, there cannot be a private right of action under the policy statement promulgated pursuant to this statute.

Thus, the judge pointed out, the Federal Aviation Administration policy regarding airport rates and charges does not confer jurisdiction on the court.

CPA, through counsel Robert T. Torres, has insisted that its dispute with Star Marianas is already before the FAA, which has primary jurisdiction over this issue.

Torres said Star Marianas' claim should remain with FAA and not before the District Court.

The lawyer said there is no federal question and the FAA

has primary jurisdiction.

Star Marianas claims that resolution of its breach of contract claim against CPA raises a federal issue because CPA has allegedly violated its federal obligation to impose reasonable rates and charges pursuant to FAA policy regarding airport rates and charges.

In its lawsuit filed last year, Star Marianas sued CPA and five unnamed co-defendants for breach of contract, violation of the Anti-Head Tax, and for unreasonable user fees.

Star Marianas, through counsel Timothy H. Bellas, is suing CPA for unspecified damages.



Torres



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# Typhoon Jebi aims for Pagan

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

The sparsely populated island of Pagan is hunkered down and ready, with weather forecasts predicting that it will take a direct hit from Typhoon Jebi today.

Yesterday, during the Commonwealth Preparedness Month proclamation signing at the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management Office, Homeland Security public information officer Nadine Deleon Guerrero said that Typhoon Jebi's path has

shifted and is directly aimed for the island of Pagan and would bring hazardous weather to the neighboring islands of Alamagan and Agrihan.

Deleon Guerrero said the 14 residents of Pagan have kept themselves updated and Homeland Security has amped communication with Pagan residents.

According to Deleon Guerrero, the typhoon was expected to hit Pagan last night or early today.

In terms of assistance, Deleon Guerrero said the CNMI Homeland Security and

Emergency Management Office remain on standby and are ready to make the trip to assess the Northern Islands and bring reinforcements if needed once the typhoon threat has cleared up.

According to a public advisory from the National Weather Service in Guam, Jebi continues to intensify as it makes its way toward the Northern Islands. Sustained winds increased to 115mph yesterday evening and could possibly become a super typhoon by Friday night.

At 7pm yesterday, the center of Typhoon Jebi was forecasted to be moving toward the west at 12mph and is expected to

move west-northwest overnight through today then will turn toward the northwest with a slight increase in forward speed.

Typhoon Jebi was located about 105 miles east of Alamagan, about 115 miles east-southeast of Pagan, about 140 miles east-southeast of Agrihan, about 215 miles northeast of Saipan, and about 225 miles northeast of Tinian.

Because of the anticipated threat of Typhoon Jebi, acting governor Victor B. Hocog has maintained Typhoon Condition I for the islands of Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrihan. No typhoon warnings have been issued for the islands of Saipan and Tinian.

## PAY

From Page 1

10 of the CNMI Constitution.

Section 10 requires that the advisory commission that is looking at a possible wage hike should pick a composite price index, review the percentage change of that CPI for the period since the last salary change, and make a salary recommendation that falls within the percentage change.

The Supreme Court instructed the Superior Court to resume proceedings and determine whether the salary increase should be deemed void from the very beginning (starting from the salary increases enacted in Public Law 4-32) or prospectively.

## Comments

On an online post from one of the biggest critics of Public Law 19-83, Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) said that, although he favors the court's ruling, he strongly believes

that the law should be eliminated altogether.

"The 80-percent salary increases for elected officials must be retracted and corrected, but I would prefer to see it eliminated entirely as stated in my numerous comments in the local media and social media. Perhaps now is the time for the 20th Legislature to support H.B. 20-39, a bill Rep. Ed Villagomez and I introduced in February of 2017 that will eliminate the 80-percent salary increases for elected officials altogether," he said.

Propst added that he and five other lawmakers stand firm in their belief that no one should receive the 80-percent pay hike.

"I want to thank my colleagues Reps. Vinnie Sablan, Ed Villagomez, B.J. Attao, and Ralph Yumul for voting against the 80-percent salary increases for elected officials. ... The five of us withstood repeated attacks from many who said we should not receive the 80-percent salary increases

since we voted against it, but we persevered and continued to insist that no one should receive the 80-percent salary increases because it is unconstitutional and unfair," he said.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said that, with the Supreme Court decision, the money that would have gone to legislative salaries can now be allotted to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

"I am grateful that the court has finally made a decision on this matter. As we negotiated in the current fiscal year budget, in the event the court rules unfavorably, the funds for this purpose would go to CHCC to help defray the costs incurred as a result of uncompensated care and other services," he said.

The administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres also released a statement acknowledging the Supreme Court's decision.

"We respect the Supreme Court's decision, and we ac-

knowledge their due diligence in fulfilling their constitutional duty on this important issue. It provides clarity to the process, which was the intent of the certified question," it said.

According to the administration, it was the advisory commission's intent to modernize the salary scale, with the focus not on the current legislature, but to encourage a future number of quality candidates, who would serve the Commonwealth with a commensurate wage.

"Our islands expect much of our public servants. We all want good government. The work and sacrifice to serve our community are a justification for a modernized compensation that reflects the evolving challenges of being an elected official," they said.

House Speaker Rafael Demapan (R-Saipan), the author of the House bill that is now Public Law 19-83, refused to comment on the Supreme Court's decision until he has read it in full.

## POT

From Page 1

bill," the statement said.

"We can't comment yet until it has reached the governor's desk. In due time, after the governor in due diligence reviews the bill entirely, we will address it and consider the impact it would do to the community as a whole," added the statement.

Senate President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan), along with Senate vice president Steve K. Mesngon (R-Rota), original author Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), and all three Tinian GOP lawmak-

ers—Sens. Francisco M. Borja, Francisco Q. Cruz, and Jude U. Hofschneider—voted in favor of the bill.

Sens. Justo S. Quitugua (R-Saipan) and Teresita A. Santos (R-Rota) abstained, while Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) was absent.

Santos said her position hasn't changed since Igisomar's original legislation, Senate Bill 20-62, passed early this year. "I abstained for the same reason when I abstained when I voted on S.B. 20-62 and for the same reason cited therein."

"I fully support the legislation of marijuana solely for medicinal purposes, but not

legalizing marijuana for recreational purposes."

Igisomar, before the body voted to pass the bill, said the legislation is almost the same thing that the Senate passed in May this year, with Senate legal counsel Antonette Villagomez doing a cross-match with the House version introduced by Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan).

"Generally, they changed the findings in the bill in reference to the one that we passed [S.B. 20-62] in the Senate. They [House] expanded the definition of public property to include all government properties. They changed the number of commission mem-

bers from nine down to [five], the regular [number] of commission and board members in the CNMI."

He added that the concern of the CNMI State Public School System were also taken into consideration with the House removing the protection section under Section 128 and 129 in the Senate version.

H.B. 20-178 also put in place a 10 percent ad valorem tax plus a 5 percent tax on all other products associated with marijuana or cannabis.

"Essentially this is the Senate version that went to the House and became the House version," added Igisomar.

Lottery Commission.

"...If the Lottery Commission grants the extension by the end of [Friday], that issue would be resolved," he said, adding that the casino commission would "quickly resolve it because the original violation would be moot."

"If the Lottery Commission [doesn't amend the CLA], then the casino commission would need to meet to discuss...the possible actions to take," he added.

Typhoon Condition I means destructive winds of 74mph or more can be expected within the next 12 hours or are occur-

## Sept. fuel adjustment charge remains the same

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. announced yesterday that the fuel adjustment charge remains at \$0.22317 per kilowatt-hour for the month of September.

Although there has been a slight decrease in the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing from June 2018 to September 2018—as notified by Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc.—the decrease did not equal or exceed a 4.5 percent differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel.

CUC is required, pursuant to an order previously issued by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, to adjust (up or down) the FAC pass-through rate when the MOPS monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5 percent differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used in the calcu-

ring. The onset of destructive winds for the islands of Alamagan, Pagan, and Agrihan of 74mph or more is imminent.

lation of the current FAC rate.

Accordingly, there will be no adjustment made to the overall CUC kWh rate for the month of September.

The FAC is one of two components that make up the CUC electric rate, which is used to purchase fuel. The second component is the base rate, which is used to fund CUC operations, projects, and debt service. This base rate has not been increased since April 17, 2014.

CUC first instituted LEAC in 2009 to recover fuel and fuel related costs, a system also used by power providers in Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In May 2015, the CPUC authorized CUC to change the name of LEAC to FAC to provide customers a more accurate description of the rate. (CUC)

## DECISION

From Page 1

The commission would reconvene at the conference room of the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill at 10am today.

IPI, as stated in amendment No. 5, should have completed the initial gaming facility with the opening of the Imperial Pacific Resort in Garapan today, Aug. 31. They are asking the commission to extend the completion date by another two years to Aug. 31, 2020.

They are also asking the commission to waive a requirement in the casino license agreement that mandates them to operate only 5-star quality hotels when they take over the Mariana Resort & Spa in Marpi.

They are also asking the commission to allow them to operate the completed portions of their development project in Garapan such as the food and beverage outlets, and gaming area once all the facilities have been done and all necessary licenses and permits are obtained.

Aside from the casino gaming floor area, the still-to-be finished Imperial Pacific Resort also has the Chairman M restaurant, the Noodle House, and the Tapochau Bar.

Commission chair Mark Rabauliman, who was design-

ated by the commission to negotiate with IPI representatives, said that they are still in the process of negotiating the terms of IPI's request. "The CNMI has presented our conditions and positions to the folks from IPI and they brought [it] back to their team under consideration. For the time being, we're still under negotiations... The negotiations, as far as presenting the CNMI's position, were done late [yesterday] afternoon. We both need some

time so that we can go back to the people and present it accordingly. In that way, everybody has time to consider the CNMI's position."

In an earlier interview, Rabauliman said he would consult the Attorney General Edward Manibusan if it would be possible to grant an extension even if the contract is not yet amended or finalized.

"That [Aug. 31 deadline] is something that I was going to pose it to the AG. Will it be something that would be allowed?" said Rabauliman, who added that their decision would be based on the report given by the Development Planning Advisory Committee.

After the commission's Wednesday meeting, Rabauliman said they have enough time to review IPI's 191-page amendment No. 6 package as they would base their decision on the report that was also given by the Development Planning Advisory Committee—composed of Pacific Century Inc. and N15 Architects.

"They [DPAC] are the technical people as you've heard them [Wednesday]. They provided the [commission] with the summary of the technical stuff. We have to rely on the professionals. I'm no architect or engineer. They provided recommendations and timelines. Based on the discussions, I don't see why not?"

Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero, in a separate interview, said they would step in and impose possible sanctions but not in reference to the Aug. 31 deadline not being met by IPI.

He said that the CCC could sanctions IPI or not, slap them with monetary sanctions or totally revoke the exclusive license that was awarded to the casino investor based on violations of the CLA.

## CCC

From Page 1

Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's casino resort in Garapan, which was supposed to be fully operational by the end of today. It was earlier reported that IPI now wants the deadline pushed to Aug. 31, 2020.

"...If they [IPI] do not finish by [today], and they do not get an extension, they are in trouble," Deleon Guerrero said.

Referring to that "trouble," Deleon Guerrero said that would happen "if IPI is not in compliance with the terms of agreement in the casino license agreement, or CLA. ... What those sanctions would be, we would address later."

Deleon Guerrero later noted that, in the case of a violation of the CLA, the casino commission is authorized to: do nothing; warn the licensee; impose sanctions; or even revoke license.

Based on the approved sixth amendment to the CLA, today marks the final day for the completion of the IPI casino resort.

Deleon Guerrero emphasized yesterday that not extending the deadline would only be an issue if it's not finalized by the end of the day. He noted that the casino commission has to similarly amend their regulations to reflect the new amendments to the CLA as finalized by the



## DUE TO THE RAPID ECONOMIC GROWTH

**'Saipan power demand up 40 percent since 2016'**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Saipan's rapid economic growth has fueled a 40-percent increase in its power demand since 2016, according to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Gary P. Camacho.

In contrast, the average power utility growth in the U.S. mainland is only 1 percent.

"So it's extremely challenging," said Camacho.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, Camacho said that CUC needs to replace its Number 8 power engine at Power Plant 1 in Lower Base.

He said that engine has been down for many years. It used to produce 11 megawatts.

"Although we have the engine, it's not producing because of mechanical issues," he said.

Camacho earlier reported that their three power plants on Saipan produce a total capacity of 52.1 megawatts.

Camacho said CUC has funding to buy a new engine to replace Engine No. 8, but the project has been going through the procurement process to identify the right one for installation. He said the CNMI central government provided funding to buy a replacement engine, largely due to efforts of the previous CUC board.

"It's now being processed to replace the engine and that would be an additional 10 to 11 megawatt to the system," he said.

At a status conference about CUC projects last February before U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge David O. Carter, Camacho disclosed that the Imperial Pacific casino is currently partially online with CUC's power.

"I think at 1.4 or 2 megawatts, but that's anticipated to be 20 megawatts at some point," he said.

Camacho noted that approximately six other resorts have been permitted to build their own power plants and that some of those are actually under construction.

He said one of the resorts is a 7-megawatt establishment in Tanapag, and just north of that in San Roque is another is 4-megawatt resort.

"So between the two [resort projects], it's 11 megawatts," Camacho said.



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# Headcount of Compact migrants in CNMI starts

By BEA CABRERA

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CORRESPONDENT

The Office of Insular Affairs through the U.S. Census Bureau is currently here to do a

Compact of Free Association census in the CNMI. That is a headcount on the number of migrants in the CNMI who come from Freely Associated States and other U.S. territories.

That includes residents of not just from the Freely Associated States—Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau—but also those from Guam, Hawaii,

and American Samoa.

Survey results of the Compact impact study would determine federal policies and how much federal dollars would go to the CNMI to offset the

CNMI's cost of educating and providing social, health, and other services to these migrants.

OIA and U.S. Census Bureau representatives made a presentation yesterday on Capital Hill to House Speaker Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan) and some members of the House and Senate on how they plan to do the Compact census.

According to Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan), data collection is very crucial to this survey, hence his reason for raising the issue of house numbering in the CNMI.

"Maybe street numbering is what we need," he said. "Maybe the U.S. Census Bureau can work with the CNMI leadership—both in the House and Senate—to prioritize house numbering system."

Loraine A. West, the Demographic and Economic Studies Branch Population Division chief who is heading the survey, said that identifying houses can be a challenge since the CNMI does not have a street numbering system.

"We are aware of that and that's why we do listings separately," she said. "We came in July and that was the objective then to literally to walk up and down the streets and off the streets to identify the place that somebody might

live in. We built an address register and if there no number or street, then we would describe it, like 'the yellow house behind the church' description so now when the enumerators go out, they have the description of what they're looking for, so our goal is nobody gets missed."

"We are cooperating with the CNMI Central Statistics Division. ... Back in 2013, when we last had to do an estimate, we just relied on the 2010 Census data to determine the estimate of the Compact of Free Association qualified migrants here... Now the goal is to get a more accurate estimate about the migrants," she added.

Harry C. Blanco, the CNMI field representative at the Office of Insular Affairs, said that Congress has allotted \$30 million to execute this survey.

"After they do the survey, they bring the statistics back to our office and our economist pretty much dissects the collected data and that's how we award federal grants: based on the population of the Compact migrants," he said.

West and her team started the survey yesterday afternoon and are looking until the end of September to collect data.

"A total of 22,000 households dispersed all over Saipan will be targeted," she added.



## GRANDVRIO RESORT

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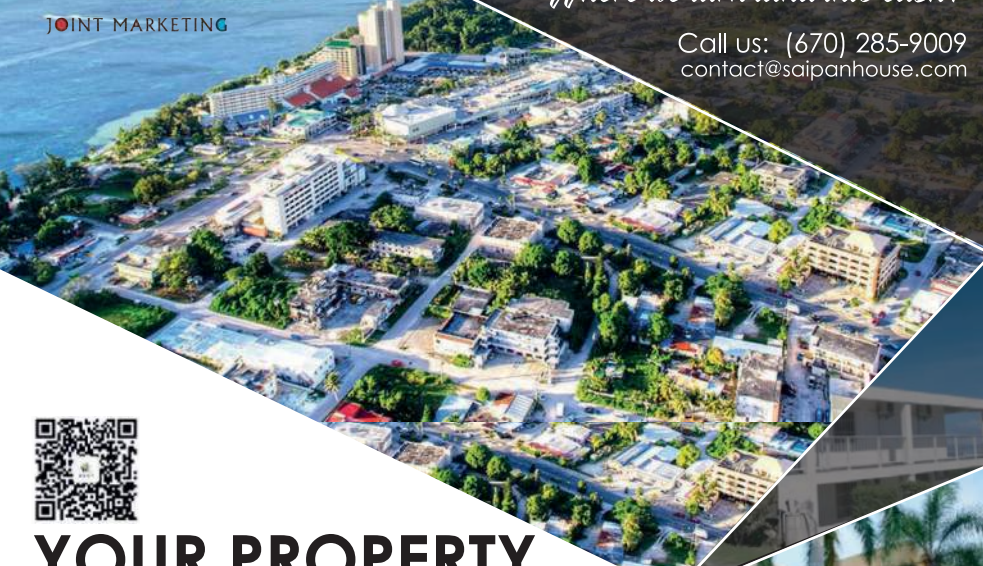



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## Kilili: Farm bill money will feed more needy families

"At last, the \$32.5 million I put into the 2014 Agricultural Act will be fully used to feed needy families."

Thus said Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) yesterday, responding to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' announcement that the income thresholds for food stamps have been raised, making more Marianas families eligible for food stamps.

Sablan has been urging the governor to make more families eligible for assistance since March, when House Agriculture Committee staff and the U.S. Department of Agriculture

reported to Sablan that the Commonwealth had \$22.5 million in unspent food stamp money.

Commonwealth officials ridiculed Sablan at the time and denied there were excess funds.

"We made the information public and that transparency angered some officials," Sablan said. "What is important is that now, because we gave people the facts, at last, more families will get the help they need."

On May 1, in response to Sablan's public revelation that the Commonwealth had millions unspent, the local ENAP

office did raise benefits significantly. On Saipan, monthly benefits for a family of four went from \$686 to \$944. For Tinian and Rota, the increases were from \$744 to \$998 and from \$897 to \$1,150.

Some 2,600 families benefited from the increase.

### 'I can take the personal attacks, if it means more people get help'

Sablan publicly congratulated the governor at the time for the benefit increase. But the congressman said the Commonwealth still had \$20 million on the table. He

urged that income thresholds be eased so more families would be eligible.

"The way to use these funds is to make more families eligible for assistance," Sablan wrote Torres in June. "By my calculation, based on the U.S. Department of Agriculture data, you could add 2,000 more Marianas households to those already receiving food aid, if you used all the Agricultural Act money you have available now and the block grant Congress appropriates annually."

"Who am I talking about? These are households earn-

ing more than the current maximum income for a family of four, \$17,412 per year, and less than \$25,000. They are families earning minimum wage, on fixed incomes, and retirees."

Again, Commonwealth officials scoffed at the Marianas congressman. But this week's announcement quotes Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Robert Hunter as doing exactly what Sablan had recommended. A family of four will now qualify if they earned up to \$2,050 per month, or \$24,600 annually.

"No one likes being attacked in the press or social media, as I was when I asked the governor to spend the money and make more families eligible," said Sablan.

"I can take the personal attacks, if it means the people I work for get the help they need."

### Delay creates a problem in Congress

Despite the good news, Sablan also said that the spending delay creates a big problem in Congress.

"I raised this issue with the governor six months ago,

when the next farm bill was being written in Congress," Sablan explained. "I was working to get an extension of the ENAP program for another five years."

It was at that point that Republican staff on the Agriculture Committee informed Sablan of the Commonwealth's \$22.5 million spending backlog and blocked his effort to extend ENAP.

"Now, both the House and the Senate have passed their versions and the five-year farm bill is in conference committee," said Sablan. "That train has left the station."

The missed opportunity means Sablan will have to get a standalone bill passed in the next Congress to put the Marianas into the national food program, SNAP, or get extra money for the Marianas in the annual Agriculture appropriation.

"Either way it will take everything I have learned in Congress over the last 10 years to be successful," Sablan said.

"The easiest way would have been to piggyback on the farm bill, as I did in 2014. But that is no longer an option, because of the delayed spending by the Commonwealth." (PR)

## MLSG renews gala sponsorship



From left, Juanita Fajardo and Audrey Camacho, Marianas Legal Strategy Group LLC staff; Sean Frink and Marcia Schultz, MLSG partners; Roberta Guerrero, MINA's executive director; and Catherine Cachero, MINA counsel.

MINA

Marianas Legal Strategy Group, LLC has recommitted its Emerald-level sponsorship again this year for the Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance's Green Gala on Sept. 14 at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

They join numerous other corporate supporters of MINA, with the philosophy that as residents and business owners on Saipan, all share in the common responsibility of conserving and protecting our natural resources.

MLSG partners Marcia Schultz and Sean Frink commended MINA for the work they do to engage and educate the public about recycling and keeping the ocean free from debris. "The work that MINA undertakes has a driving influence that potentially will change the negative attitude of 'Not my problem' to one

that embraces 'My world, my problem,'" said Shultz.

This year's Green Gala theme is the "International Year of the Reef" and honors will be bestowed upon the winners of the Environmental Hero Award, Green Business of the Year Award, and Environmental Champion Award.

Along with the celebration of the environment, the Green Gala raises funds to keep MINA's programs progressing, such as building capacity for the marine debris prevention program, Schools for Environmental Conservation, and the Tasi Watch Program.

Doors open at 6pm, and overflow parking is available to guests at the American Memorial Park. Tickets are \$75 and on sale now at MINA's office at the Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road. Call 233-7333 for more information. (MINA)

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## Go on a sailing tour aboard *Okeanos Marianas*

*Okeanos Marianas*, the CNMI's 50-foot traditional sailing canoe, will be providing sailing tours within the Saipan lagoon to residents throughout the month of September in celebration of Heritage Month.

Tours start at Smiling Cove Marina at 10am and 5pm and feature marine life in and around the Saipan Harbor, as well as talks on

traditional navigation and seafaring culture.

For more information and reservations, call 234-6265 or visit and leave a message on the *Okeanos Marianas* Facebook site.

The CNMI non-profit organization that operated the *Okeanos Marianas*, called Okeanos Traditional Sailing for Future Solutions, aims to provide sustainable sea trans-

portation services throughout Micronesia and serve as an educational platform using traditional canoes to promote sailing, navigation, and environmental stewardship.

*Okeanos Marianas* is available to CNMI entities interested in chartering the canoe for cargo shipments, sailing tours, educational tours, and/or open-ocean voyages to the Northern Islands. (PR)

## Legion honors Guam coastguardsman

MINNEAPOLIS, MN—A U.S. Coast Guard petty officer assigned to Coast Guard Station Apra Harbor in Guam received The American Legion's Spirit of Service Award yesterday in recognition of his extensive volunteer efforts.

MK2 Brian M. Gogo serves as a response boat-medium engineer, tactical boat crew-member, boarding officer, and as lead volunteer outreach coordinator. Originally from Guam, he utilized his local network of contacts to coordinate multiple volunteer opportunities throughout Guam.

Working with 15 members of Coast Guard Station Apra Harbor, he led all Coast Guard efforts during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kid Day Safety Event. This event provided families with a free booklet that included current photographs, fingerprints, and the height and weight of

their children to ensure the safety and security of 234 children via a rapid identification method for authorities in the event of an Amber Alert.

Gogo participated in the 23rd Annual Guam International Coastal Cleanup Day. This event included over 20 locations where trash was collected along the coast of Guam. His efforts resulted in the removal of 180 bags of trash and debris from coastal areas throughout Guam.

Gogo is also an active member of the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America program. He has established himself as an outstanding mentor to children in need of a positive role models.

American Legion national commander Denise Rohan, the first female to hold the position of national commander in the legion's 100-year history, presented the award to Gogo

along with Walter Joseph Marm Jr., Medal of Honor recipient, and retired Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Michael Barrett during The American Legion's 100<sup>th</sup> National Convention in Minneapolis.

Gogo was honored along with representatives from the others. (PR)

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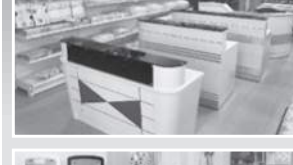
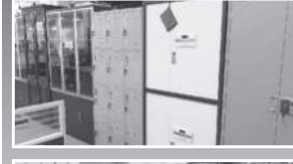
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## United adds 10,000 seats to Guam-HK route

**TAMUNING, Guam**—Beginning Nov. 1, 2018, United Airlines customers flying between Guam and Hong Kong will have the choice of six weekly flights with the addition of two evening flights on Tuesdays and Thursdays for both ways.

Customers can book their flights to and from Hong Kong immediately for travel beginning on Nov. 1.

This 50-percent increase in

seat capacity is designed to meet the growing demand between Guam and Hong Kong during the 2018-2019 winter peak travel season.

The additional twice-weekly service aboard the Boeing 737-700 aircraft (12 seats in United Business, 30 seats in United Economy Plus and 84 seats in United Economy) will offer an additional 500 seats per week between the countries, adding approxi-

mately 10,000 seats through the winter season.

Sam Shinohara, United's managing director Airport Operations-Asia/Pacific said, "We are pleased to be able to add seat capacity between Guam and Hong Kong to provide more business and leisure travel options for our customers. This is a direct reflection of the increase in demand between Guam and Hong Kong and long-term partnerships with our business partners such as travel agencies and Guam Visitors Bureau."

"We continue to monitor the market and adjust seat capacity to meet the demand in a timely manner to support all routes we serve from our Guam hub," Shinohara added. "As Guam's hometown airline for 50 years, United is fully

committed to supporting tourism, Guam's number one in-

dustry and economic driver." *(United)*

## G4S Secure Solutions settles EEOC disability violation lawsuit for \$90K

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—G4S Secure Solutions, Inc., a security company in Hawaii, will pay \$90,000 and provide other relief to settle a disability discrimination charge filed with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the agency announced yesterday.

The charge made to the EEOC alleged that G4S violated federal law when it failed to provide a reasonable accommodation for one of its employees, a security guard who required additional leave while undergoing medical treatment. In lieu of additional leave, G4S fired the security guard.

The EEOC investigated the allegations and found reasonable cause to believe that G4S Secure Solutions failed to provide a reasonable accommodation and terminated the employee while on medical leave, in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

During its investigation, the EEOC also identified a class member who was also discriminated against due to his disability.

Without admitting liability, G4S agreed to enter into a two-year conciliation agreement with EEOC and the alleged victims, thereby avoiding litigation. Aside from the monetary relief, the company agreed to hire an outside equal employment opportunity consultant to revise its current policies to include a compre-

hensive reasonable accommodation policy and to conduct effective training for all employees across the state of Hawaii on the ADA. The EEOC will monitor compliance with this agreement.

"Employees have the right to an accommodation for their disabilities under the ADA, and a leave of absence is one such accommodation," said Rosa Viramontes, district director of the EEOC's Los Angeles District, which includes Hawaii. "I commend G4S Secure Solutions for its early resolution of the EEOC charge, thereby avoiding litigation for all parties."

Glory Gervacio Saure, director of the Honolulu local office, added, "Engaging in the interactive process is vital to providing a reasonable accommodation for employees with disabilities. The EEOC is encouraged by the commitment G4S is making through training and policies to create a workplace that is inclusive to people with disabilities."

According to the company's website, [www.g4s.us](http://www.g4s.us), G4S provides integrated security solutions including risk consulting, software and technology, systems integration and security officers. G4S's U.S. headquarters is in Jupiter, Fla.

The EEOC advances opportunity in the workplace by enforcing federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination. More information is available at [www.eeoc.gov](http://www.eeoc.gov). *(EEOC)*



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| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C</b><br>18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 13.0 FREON R410              | <b>\$848</b>   | <b>\$748</b>         |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C</b><br>24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 13.0 FREON R410              | <b>\$948</b>   | <b>\$848</b>         |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C</b><br>30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 13.0 FREON R410              | <b>\$1,198</b> | <b>\$1,098</b>       |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C</b><br>36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 13.0 FREON R410              | <b>\$1,698</b> | <b>\$1,598</b>       |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver Split Type A/C</b><br>48,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 13.0 FREON R410              | <b>\$2,498</b> | <b>\$2,398</b>       |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C</b><br>9,000BTU 115V-220V 60Hz<br>SEER 20.5 FREON R410  | <b>\$698</b>   | <b>\$598</b>         |
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| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C</b><br>18,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 18.3 FREON R410  | <b>\$1,198</b> | <b>\$998</b>         |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C</b><br>24,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 20.9 FREON R410  | <b>\$1,598</b> | <b>\$1,398</b>       |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C</b><br>30,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 18.8 FREON R410  | <b>\$1,798</b> | <b>\$1,598</b>       |
| <b>Lin's Air New Energy Saver DC Inverter Split Type A/C</b><br>36,000BTU 208-230V 60Hz<br>SEER 17.3 FREON R411  | <b>\$1,998</b> | <b>\$1,798</b>       |
| <b>Lin's Air Brand New Energy Window Type A/C</b><br>5,000BTU 115V 60Hz FREON R 410A                             | <b>\$248</b>   | <b>\$198</b>         |
| <b>Lin's Air Brand New Energy WINDOW Type A/C</b> 8,000BTU<br>115V 60Hz FREON R 410A                             | <b>\$348</b>   | <b>\$298</b>         |
| <b>Lin's Air Brand New Energy WINDOW Type A/C</b> 12,000BTU<br>115V 60Hz FREON R 410A                            | <b>\$448</b>   | <b>\$398</b>         |
| <b>4.5 CU. FT REFRIGERATOR</b><br>115v 60HZ  | <b>\$388</b>   | <b>\$298</b>         |
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3. Free basic installation. (15FT of co tubing & electrical)
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**EXCLUSION:**

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WASHINGTON, D.C.— U.S. Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke will lead a high-level U.S. government delegation

to the 30th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Session on Sept. 4, 2018 in Nauru. After the forum, Zinke's

delegation will visit Papua New Guinea to meet senior officials in advance of APEC Leaders' Week, and make

stops in Guam, the CNMI, and American Samoa to underscore the importance of the U.S. territories as part of

the American family. Zinke's delegation will include senior officials from the White House, U.S. De-

## DOI's Zinke will lead US delegation to PIF in Nauru

partment of State, U.S. Department of Defense, U.S. Department of the Interior, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Agency for International Development.

"It is truly an honor to lead the United States delegation to the 30th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Session," said Zinke. "The Pacific region, including the U.S. territories, are important to America's strategic interests. I look forward to representing the United States and our stance to advance regional order, the rule of law, and free, fair, and reciprocal trade in the region."

Zinke's trip is intended to emphasize that the Pacific Islands are key to the President's vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific. Zinke's trip highlights U.S. commitment to advancing a regional

**» Will also make stops in PNG, Guam, CNMI, American Samoa**

order based on respect for sovereignty, the rule of law, and the principles of free, fair, and reciprocal trade.

The PIF is the region's premier political and economic policy organization with 18 members. It organizes an annual meeting with 18 Forum Dialogue Partners, including the United States, at the ministerial level.

At the PIF, Zinke will host a roundtable meeting with Pacific Island leaders and conduct bilateral consultations with heads of state of the Pacific Islands Forum members to discuss issues of regional and global importance, including regional security, responding to the threat posed by the activities of North Korea, combating illegal fishing, and sustainable development.

Zinke bears responsibilities for the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, and the CNMI in the region. Interior also administers and oversees federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

Douglas Domenech, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular and International Affairs, and the Office of Insular Affairs, supports Zinke's mission in the U.S. insular areas. (PR)

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Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign equivalent); two (2) years of experience as a CATV Headend/Bench Technician or Bench Technician; and six (6) months of experience using Arris CHP MAX Headend Optics Platform Receiver hardware, Arris CHP MAX Headend Optics Platform Transmitter hardware, Cisco Prisma Optics Platform Receiver, Cisco Prisma Optics Platform Transmitter and Cisco Local Craft Interface software.

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### One (1) Maintenance Technician

Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma (may be foreign educational equivalent), one (1) year of experience in job offered or Fiber Technician and one (1) year of experience using Cisco Nodes hardware, Scientific Atlanta amplifiers hardware or other broad band signal amplifier, line extender amplifier and CATV passive devices.

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# 11 groups and counting for Int'l Festival of Cultures

Eleven cultural groups living in the Marianas have signed up to participate in the Marianas Visitors Authority's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 21-23, 2018, at Paseo de Marianas.

For the first time, the African community will join the event. Also confirmed to participate are the Marianas, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Marshall Islands, Hawaii, Tonga/Fiji/Samoa, Bangladesh, Philippines, Korea, and Japan. Additional groups are invited to join the celebration of the cultural diversity of the Marianas.

"The committee of cultural representatives has been working very well with us to plan this year's celebration, and they have some great

ideas. It's great to see how we can all work together as a Marianas community to put on this event for our visitors and residents," said MVA Community Projects coordinator and event coordinator Demalynn Pagarao. "We are excited to have the African community join us this year for the first time, also. They are from several countries on the continent and represented on the committee by Kenya."

The International Festival of Cultures will be held from 5pm to 10pm each night and will feature live entertainment, ethnic food, arts and crafts demonstrations, and more.

For more information, contact Pagarao at dpagarao@mymarianas.com or (670) 664-3219 for more information. (MVA)



Representatives of various ethnic communities in the Marianas display their traditional attire during the opening of the Marianas Visitors Authority's International Festival of Cultures on Sept. 9, 2017. The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual International Festival of Cultures will be held on Sept. 21-23, 2018, at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan, Saipan. MVA

## Mount Carmel school holds student leadership retreat

Mount Carmel School's Student Council officers gave fellow students a reason to wake up early on a Saturday morning to participate in the school's annual Student Leadership Retreat this past weekend at the Maturana Building in Chalan Kanoa.

School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero facilitated a group discussion on leadership and talked about how to motivate effectively. "You motivate people by finding out what's stopping them from moving forward, and then identifying what it would take to make them move forward."

The Student Council shared its mission for the new school

year and gave classes and clubs the opportunity to plan out and schedule activities and events week-by-week for the entire school year. By the end of the retreat, student leaders, both old and new, were prepared for the rest of the school year.

Student Council vice president Reica Ramirez believes this year's retreat exceeded their expectations. "We just wanted to motivate the students to work together to have the best year yet. Additionally, it's our first time to be able to bring the teachers and the students together. I've never seen the teachers so engaged in the retreat." (Ydylle Acosta)



MCS

Mount Carmel School's 7th grade student leaders build their structure as part of the Marshmallow Challenge at the school's annual Student Leadership Retreat.

### 3rd Annual

# We Will Never Forget: Field of Heroes

17th Anniversary of September 11th

This event is for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to come together in solidarity to remember those who have perished; and to honor our HEROES that responded to save the many lives during this attack and who are still battling our fight against terrorism.

*Save the dates*

- **SAIPAN - AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK**  
September 9th - Posting of flags  
September 11th - Freedom Walk at 5:00 pm  
(Garapan Fishing Base to American Memorial Park)  
9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site  
September 17th - Retiring of flags beginning 8:00 am
- **TINIAN - VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK**  
September 3rd - Posting of flags  
September 11th - 9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site at 10:00 am  
Freedom Walk at 5:00 pm  
(Tinian Fiesta Grounds to Veterans Memorial Park)  
September 17th - Retiring of flags
- **ROTA - JOAQUIN OGO BASEBALL FIELD**  
September 7th - Posting of flags  
September 10th - 9/11 Ceremony at Field of Heroes site at 5:00 pm  
September 22nd - Retiring of flags

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

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### EDITORIAL

## Requiem for the plastic bag

The not-quite-as-ubiquitous plastic grocery bag took another big hit Thursday. The nation's largest grocery chain, Kroger Co.—parent of Mariano's—declared that it would phase out single-use plastic bags from its nearly 2,800 stores by 2025.

Kroger orders about 6 billion bags a year—yes, billion. So this isn't a minor ripple. It should accelerate the slide of plastic bags into oblivion, at least in the U.S. We realize that dog owners will have to find another means to scoop and workers will have to find another vessel in which to ferry lunch.

Sorry, folks, but there's a greater good here. Billions of bags are tossed out every year in the U.S. Many of those bags, and other plastic waste, wind up littering the world's oceans, lakes, beaches, parkways and streets. These bags take up to 1,000 years to degrade.

Are American consumers ready for this shift? Kroger, which says it "listens closely" to customers' concerns, thinks so. As do we.

Most of the plastic produced since the dawn of the Plastic Age after World War II—more than 9 billion tons—is still around, cluttering up the planet. On the current pollution trajectory, researchers say plastic refuse in oceans could exceed fish, ton for ton, in three decades. Or, as one scientist chillingly notes, for every pound of tuna taken out of the ocean, people are dumping two pounds of plastic in.

People carelessly tossed trash out the car window, on sidewalks and on the beach until public education campaigns at least made many of them feel guilty about it. Millions of Americans no longer litter. Many of them also shun plastic bags and other one-and-done plastic containers.

The bags and other single-use plastic items like straws are drawing the evil eye from food purveyors and other retailers who seek to promote themselves as green.

Starbucks, Disney, Marriott, Hyatt Hotels, Lettuce Entertain You Enterprises and McDonald's are among the companies moving to dump plastic straws. McDonald's is also pledging to use only recycled or other environmentally friendly materials for its soda cups, Happy Meal boxes and other packaging by 2025. Dunkin' Donuts vows to eliminate polystyrene foam cups by 2020. Ikea plans to eliminate single-use plastic products by 2020.

We hope the Kroger move encourages even more companies to follow suit.

To save the planet's oceans and lakes, however, companies and consumers will need to do more than swear off plastic bags and straws. Waste handling systems have to improve worldwide, particularly in countries that now struggle to deal with plastic litter. The prime mover here is rising public awareness—and a resulting willingness of many among us to make modest lifestyle changes. Some stores even reward customers with cash back or other bonuses to forgo plastic bags.

Stash a few reusable bags in the trunk. Use them. Once you get into the habit, you'll be surprised how quickly you forget that you ever relied on out-of-fashion plastic.

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## “We cannot risk losing an investor—again”

*Editor's Note: The following is the text of the testimony the author submitted to the CNMI Lottery Commission during a commission meeting on Aug. 28, 2018, at the Office of the Governor conference room. The testimony was addressed to commission chair Mark Rabauliman and commission members.*

With many of our community members speaking willingly during the CNMI Lottery Commission's Aug. 28, 2018 meeting, to act on the request of Imperial Pacific International extension, I am respectfully submitting this written testimony in furtherance to my three-minute oral testimony during said meeting.

I am reiterating my earlier public comment: This decision should be easy.

Given what we all have experienced in the past, this is an easy decision—easy because we have an economy to protect; easy because we have seen the past; easy because our government continue to spend millions of dollars to ensure the longevity and survival of the tourism industry that is continually threatened by the competitions; easy because we have a company that is not asking to be paid but is only requesting for an extension.

This company is paying millions of dollars that has kept our economy afloat, kept our services functioning, provide for our retirees much-needed lifeline, provide for our public education the largest funding to support over 10K public school students, and sustain public services that ensures of our continued safety and wellbeing.

We saw what it was like before. Even though we have a strong tourism industry and garment industry back then, it wasn't enough to sustain our island economy. The death of the billion-dollar garment industry has effectively shut down and or slowed down government services and impacted many in our community. We were left with the tourism industry and, even to this day—with tourism as our main economic mainstay—there are still uncertainties.

While we have a strong China travel market, the situation between China and the United States exposes the potential vulnerability of this market; that China may not be a strong tourism market for us one day.

We cannot risk losing the casino industry like we did when we lost the garment industry. We had the opportunity to salvage the apparel industry back then. Let us not commit the same misstep today.

**By DIEGO T. BENAVENTE**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Diego T. Benavente is a former lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas.*



As a standalone industry, tourism, cannot sustain us.

During his testimony, Alex Sablan made a good point that all businesses in the CNMI, including Imperial Pacific, continue to be subjected to stringent governmental regulatory processes and safeguards. In particular, he pointed out that the CNMI has agencies and governmental bodies that were specifically created to strictly and responsibly enforce statutes and regulations to protect everyone's wellbeing and this community.

Whether it is Imperial Pacific or any investor or business, violations committed should be dealt with appropriately based on our existing laws and regulations. We have done it with other businesses and investors. Imperial Pacific was not treated differently; they were meted out with penalties and sanctions, locally and federally.

I also agree that Imperial Pacific must and should pay all forms of taxes. Aren't we all benefitting what this investor has given our islands for the past three years in forms of taxes and fees?

In my humble opinion, we must, however, exercise caution in dealing with Imperial Pacific. It was not that too long ago when we had had similar investment that we ultimately lost. We need to protect what we have now. We should not be too arrogant or too confident in handling the request of Imperial Pacific. If the requirements that we impose on them are too much, we need to consider that. The fact is Imperial Pacific has contributed and continues to contribute so much to our economy that we cannot afford to lose another investment/investor again.

Let us make sure we do not commit the same missteps of the past.

As I said in my testimony, the only surviving industry that we have today is tourism—and it is not without cost. We spend millions of dollars annually primarily for offshore marketing.

See WE on Next Page



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## Getting data

If you're within earshot of the tourism industry, which is always the case on Saipan, you'll occasionally get a dose of tourism data that's based on self-reported survey data. Worldwide, it's a common practice to get questionnaires into the hands of incoming tourists, often as arrival paperwork given to airline passengers. The questionnaires might ask about income, marital status, trip duration, age, and so on.

The practice isn't limited to tourism, of course. In the U.S. mainland it's fairly common for retail stores and restaurants to have terms printed on receipts that offer small discounts in exchange for dialing a phone number and taking an automated survey. This is usually a quality-control gig, which is different than scraping up demographic data, but we're still dealing with the self-reported element here.

Back in the day, I was sometimes involved with designing studies that used questionnaires. This was generally in the tourism, travel, and healthcare industries. The main virtue of questionnaire data was that it was generally easy to get, and, once gotten, it was always easy to compile. There were, however, some drawbacks.

One problem is that self-reported information usually comes from a self-selected pool of people. For instance, going back to my receipt example, a pool of restaurant customers that's willing to spend five minutes on a phone pushing buttons in response to automated questions, all to save \$3 on their next purchase, is likely to be far different than the pool of customers that's not willing to do this. The issue is how closely the self-selecting pool aligns with the restaurant's overall target market.

Another problem with self-reported data is the accuracy of the

answers. What people say, and what they do, can be very different things.

For example, in just about any industry, if you ask people how important quality is, they're likely to respond that it's of the utmost importance. Nobody likes to think of themselves as cheesy, low-quality cheapskates. But when actual market transactions are tallied, the results can tell a different story. Indeed, at the time of purchase, quality can fade into a mere abstraction, while saving money has a more substantial ring to it.

And then there's the "halo effect" from my healthcare days. A doctor wanted to develop a questionnaire to ascertain compliance with his post-treatment instructions. The goal was to correlate this behavior with the eventual success of the treatment. The doctor eventually surmised, however, that the least compliant patients were the least reliable reporters of their own behavior. Well, imagine that! We dubbed this the halo effect, so, while that little project turned out to be a big waste of time, at least we learned something from it.

So, in actuality, it's often more insightful to have human Q&A sessions than to blindly bask in the glow of self-polished halos. Of course, a Q&A session is a long, slow, and expensive process, so you're not going to get many data points this way.

But it can be scaled-up via forming what's called a "focus group." This is a group of people who are willing to discuss their notions about a particular product, industry, or whatever. Conducting these things is usually the domain of experts, lest things become a useless and open-ended bull-session.

However, I've known several business owners who maintained informal focus groups, generally a selected cadre of cus-

### By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

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tomers who the owner trusted to provide opinions on various matters. This approach requires charm, effort, and social skills that encourage people to say what's really on their minds. This can deliver a deeper form of feedback than you're going to get with the static realm of questionnaires or forms.

Another way to get insights is to get out of your office and spend some time in the field. If you're in tourism, for example, it can make a lot of sense to just sit in a few hotel lobbies, or tourist-intensive locations, and observe things with an open mind. I've done a lot of this. It always added texture to the dry stacks of data that were on my desk. It's not easy. Observing is no better than the observer, especially when you're looking for things that you don't even know that you're looking for yet.

Well, such are my observations and war stories. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'm going to get a Big Mac and then have a cold one with my pals at happy hour. This means, let's see, oh, about 45 minutes of exercise time and two hours of spiritual development, so let me just fill out this questionnaire on time management and I'll be running along.

## Trump's immigration policy

President Trump recently released a detailed immigration policy position paper that walks through exactly what steps he would take as president to help American workers, according to his press office.

The paper—which really constitutes a completely new look at immigration and a complete overhaul of the current system, politicians' priorities, and special interest involvement—starts with three principles.

Firstly, Trump argues, "a nation without borders is not a nation."

As such, he writes, "there must be a wall across the southern border."

Secondly, Trump argues, "a nation without laws is not a nation."

"Laws passed in accordance with our constitutional system of government must be enforced," he writes as part of his second principle.

Thirdly, Trump argues, "a nation that does not serve its own citizens is not a nation."

"Any immigration plan must improve jobs, wages and security for all Americans," he writes to flesh out the third principle.

"The paper, which was clearly influenced by Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL) who Trump consulted to help with immigration policy, contains three major parts: How a President Trump would handle border security, interior enforcement, and legal immigration policy as it relates to getting Americans—at historically low workforce participation rates right now—back to work. Perhaps most importantly, Trump uses the term "immigration reform" to describe what he will do—taking that term away from those who use it to push for fundamental transformation of the United States with immigration policy.

"When politicians talk about 'immigration reform' they mean: amnesty, cheap labor and open borders," Trump writes. "The Schumer-Rubio immigration bill was nothing more than a giveaway to the corporate patrons who run both parties. Real immigration reform puts the needs of working people first—not wealthy globetrotting donors. We are the only country in the world whose immigration system puts the needs of other nations ahead of our own. That must change."

The plan details not just that Trump believes in putting "American workers first" over the interest of foreign workers, foreign nations, and special interests, but how he would do so. Trump is the first and only presidential candidate this cycle who has done this and gone into this level of policy detail.

"Decades of disastrous trade deals and immigration policies have destroyed our middle class," Trump's position paper reads. "Today, nearly 40 percent of black teenagers are unemployed. Nearly 30 percent of Hispanic teenagers are unemployed. For

black Americans without high school diplomas, the bottom has fallen out: more than 70 percent were employed in 1960, compared to less than 40 percent in 2000. Across the economy, the percentage of adults in the labor force has collapsed to a level not experienced in generations. As CBS News wrote in a piece titled "America's incredible shrinking middle class": 'If the middle-class is the economic backbone of America, then the country is developing osteoporosis.'"

Trump writes that the "influx of foreign workers holds down salaries, keeps unemployment high, and makes it difficult for poor and working-class Americans—including immigrants themselves and their children—to earn a middle class wage" and that about "half of all immigrants and their U.S.-born children currently live in or near poverty, including more than 60 percent of Hispanic immigrants."

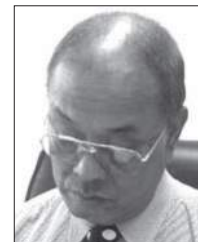
"Every year, we voluntarily admit another 2 million new immigrants, guest workers, refugees, and dependents, growing our existing all-time historic record population of 42 million immigrants," Trump writes. "We need to control the admission of new low-earning workers in order to: help wages grow, get teenagers back to work, aid minorities' rise into the middle class, help schools and communities falling behind, and to ensure our immigrant members of the national family become part of the American dream.

"Additionally, we need to stop giving legal immigrant visas to people bent on causing us harm. From the 9/11 hijackers, to the

### By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



Boston bombers, and many others, our immigration system is being used to attack us. The President of the immigration case-workers union declared in a statement on ISIS: 'We've become the visa clearinghouse for the world.'"

Trump calls for a "halt to the issuance of new green cards until Americans are back to work.

"Before any new green cards are issued to foreign workers abroad, there will be a pause where employers will have to hire from the domestic pool of unemployed immigrant and native workers," Trump wrote in a section of the paper called "immigration moderation," an area where he cites U.S. Census Bureau data and information from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Definitely, the planned policy would adversely affect the NMI and other territories.

## WE

From Page 14

Competition against world-class global destinations comes at a huge price tag. And here we are with Imperial Pacific, whose contributions have tremendously supported our tourism efforts in the past three years, appearing before us, basically saying "we [Imperial Pacific] will continue to contribute, to be the CNMI's largest revenue generator and we are not asking you to pay us anything but only to give us an extension."

To those that decry that we "are not benefitting fully" from Imperial Pacific, at what point do we push and make such determination?

Who should be the ones to make that determination of what it is that IPI can withstand as far as conditions or additional conditions to be imposed before granting any extension?

It can't just be any candidates running for office, it cannot be just any individuals who only sounds good to some people's ears.

That determination must be made by qualified individuals and

experts. We have the members of the CNMI Lottery Commission, an august body created by statute and comprised by qualified decision-makers.

We also have the Commonwealth Casino Commission, the regulatory and enforcement body independently created by the CNMI Legislature to oversee Imperial Pacific.

These government bodies are our people's representatives.






Again, I submit this comment mainly because of the fact that we cannot risk losing again an investor. This investor obviously needs such relief after being slowed down, among others, with the absence of qualified workforce that continue to beset the CNMI. This challenge has slowed down Imperial Pacific's project completion and this situation is not of our CNMI's doing. Essentially, this was a federal decision and we are fixing this to see Imperial Pacific's investment going and completed.

This is how I feel about our economy now and how Imperial Pacific together with other businesses have contributed significantly to the wellbeing of our residents.

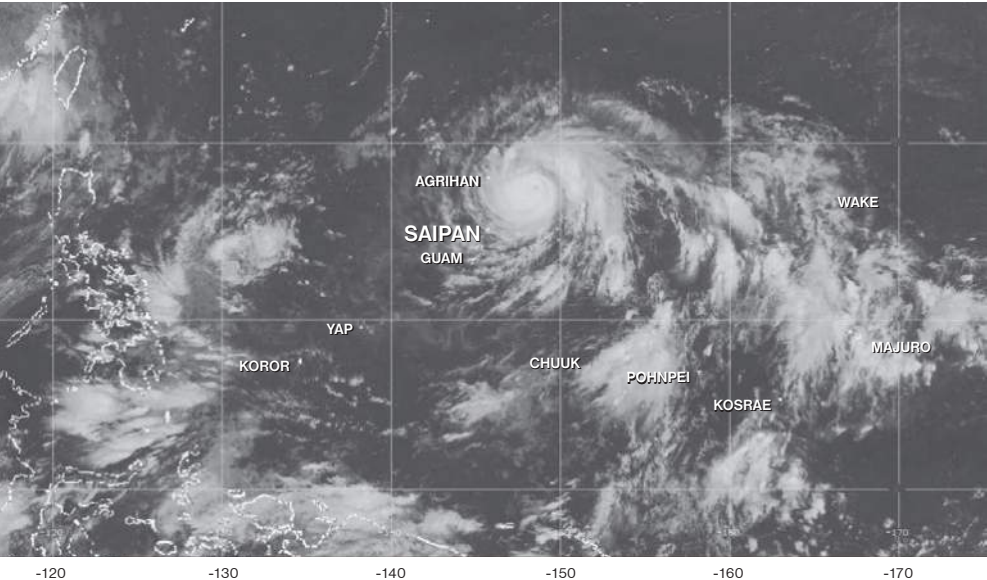


# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

| TODAY  | SATURDAY  | SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
|     |  |  |  |  |
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph. | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.                            | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.                            | Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  | Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  |
| ▲88° ▼77°  | ▲89° ▼77°   | ▲89° ▼77°   | ▲88° ▼78°   | ▲88° ▼78°   |

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



**PICTURE TIME: 1:36 PM, THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Little change made to the forecast. The biggest concern in the forecast continues to be Typhoon Jebi. It is forecast to move across the northern CNMI tonight and Friday morning. Most of the heavy weather associated with Jebi will remain north of Saipan. It will help to elevate winds across the local area. A monsoon trough stretches from a circulation north of Palau through the local area to the typhoon. As Jebi treks over the area it will continue to drag the monsoon trough northward, eventually causing the trough to be north of Saipan by tonight. Light and variable winds this morning will become northwest this afternoon as the trough moves north. Expect southwest winds of 10 to 20 mph Friday through Saturday as Jebi moves north of the local area. Models hint at some wind gust to 25 mph during that time.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

| MICRONESIA    |              |           | ▲▼°F |
|---------------|--------------|-----------|------|
| Guam and Rota | Thunderstorm | 85° / 78° |      |
| Palau         | Thunderstorm | 84° / 78° |      |
| Yap           | Thunderstorm | 85° / 80° |      |
| Chuuk         | Thunderstorm | 86° / 79° |      |
| Pohnpei       | Thunderstorm | 86° / 75° |      |
| Kosrae        | Thunderstorm | 86° / 75° |      |
| Majuro        | Thunderstorm | 85° / 78° |      |

| AROUND THE GLOBE |               |           | ▲▼°F |
|------------------|---------------|-----------|------|
| Auckland         | Partly Cloudy | 61° / 54° |      |
| Beijing          | Partly Cloudy | 82° / 68° |      |
| Hong Kong        | Thunderstorm  | 86° / 81° |      |
| Honolulu         | Mostly Sunny  | 85° / 74° |      |
| London           | Partly Cloudy | 68° / 54° |      |
| Los Angeles      | Partly Cloudy | 86° / 68° |      |
| Manila           | Thunderstorm  | 90° / 77° |      |
| Melbourne        | Showers       | 54° / 43° |      |
| Miami            | Thunderstorm  | 88° / 81° |      |
| New York         | Partly Cloudy | 91° / 79° |      |
| Osaka            | Thunderstorm  | 90° / 79° |      |
| Paris            | Thunderstorm  | 72° / 55° |      |
| Busan            | Thunderstorm  | 84° / 79° |      |
| Rome             | Sunny         | 88° / 64° |      |
| Salem            | Thunderstorm  | 88° / 71° |      |
| San Francisco    | Partly Cloudy | 64° / 57° |      |
| Seoul            | Thunderstorm  | 82° / 68° |      |
| Tokyo            | Partly Cloudy | 91° / 77° |      |
| Washington, DC   | Thunderstorm  | 93° / 73° |      |



### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

| TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY |           |      | FEET |
|----------------------------|-----------|------|------|
| 04:48 AM                   | LOW TIDE  | 0.52 |      |
| 10:32 AM                   | HIGH TIDE | 1.70 |      |
| 4:48 PM                    | LOW TIDE  | 0.52 |      |
| 10:49 PM                   | HIGH TIDE | 1.84 |      |

| DAY      | SUNRISE | SUNSET  |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Today    | 6:04 AM | 6:30 PM |
| Saturday | 6:04 AM | 6:29 PM |
| Sunday   | 6:04 AM | 6:28 PM |
| Monday   | 6:04 AM | 6:28 PM |
| Tuesday  | 6:04 AM | 6:27 PM |

| DAY      | MOONRISE | MOONSET  | MOONRISE |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Today    | -        | 9:42 AM  | 9:49 PM  |
| Saturday | -        | 10:34 AM | 10:33 PM |
| Sunday   | -        | 11:28 AM | 11:20 PM |
| Monday   | -        | 12:25 PM | -        |
| Tuesday  | 12:11 AM | 1:24 PM  | -        |

### NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 6, 2018

| DEPARTURES             |        |         |                          | ARRIVALS               |         |           |                          |
|------------------------|--------|---------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)      |        |         |                          | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN      |         |           |                          |
| UA117                  | 8:45am | 9:30am  | Daily                    | UA117                  | 7:00am  | 7:45am    | Daily                    |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)     |        |         |                          | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN     |         |           |                          |
| 7C3451                 | 3:10am | 6:10am  | 1, 7                     | 7C3452                 | 9:00pm  | 2:10am+1  | 4                        |
| 7C3451                 | 4:00am | 7:05am  | 4, 5                     | 7C3452                 | 9:05pm  | 2:10am+1  | 3, 6, 7                  |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)     |        |         |                          | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN     |         |           |                          |
| TW308                  | 2:00am | 6:05am  | Daily                    | 7C3402                 | 9:30am  | 3:00pm    | Daily                    |
| OZ626                  | 2:10am | 6:00am  | 1                        | OZ625                  | 7:40pm  | 1:00am+1  | 7                        |
| OZ626                  | 2:50am | 6:40am  | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7         | TW307                  | 7:45pm  | 1:00am+1  | Daily                    |
| LJ652                  | 3:40am | 7:30am  | 1, 4, 5, 7               | OZ625                  | 8:20pm  | 1:40am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6         |
| 7C3403                 | 4:45am | 8:30am  | Daily                    | LJ651                  | 9:10pm  | 2:40am+1  | 3, 4, 6, 7               |
| 7C3401                 | 4:00pm | 7:45pm  | Daily                    | 7C3404                 | 10:10pm | 3:40am+1  | Daily                    |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)  |        |         |                          | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN  |         |           |                          |
| 3U8648                 | 5:40am | 8:40am  | 1, 4, 5, 7               | 3U8647                 | 10:20pm | 4:30am+1  | 3, 4, 6, 7               |
| SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)  |        |         |                          | HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN  |         |           |                          |
| JD396                  | 7:30am | 12:00pm | 1                        | JD395                  | 8:25am  | 3:30pm    | 4                        |
| JD396                  | 4:50pm | 10:00pm | 4                        | JD395                  | 9:55pm  | 5:00am+1  | 7                        |
| SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) |        |         |                          | GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN |         |           |                          |
| 3U8646                 | 4:20am | 7:30am  | 2, 6                     | 3U8645                 | 7:40pm  | 3:00am+1  | 1, 5                     |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)   |        |         |                          | BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN   |         |           |                          |
| MU764                  | 1:30am | 6:35am  | 3, 5, 7                  | MU763                  | 4:25pm  | 12:30am+1 | 2, 4, 6                  |
| SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)    |        |         |                          | MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN    |         |           |                          |
| OZ626/701              | 2:10am | 10:55am | 1 via ICN                | UA182/6395             | 12:40am | 8:05am    | 3, 6 via GUM             |
| OZ626/701              | 2:50am | 10:55am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | UA190/6397             | 9:55am  | 5:35pm    | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM       |
| UA6394/191             | 4:15am | 9:00am  | 2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM       | OZ702/625              | 12:25pm | 1:00am+1  | 7 via ICN                |
| UA6394/PR111           | 4:15am | 8:10am  | 7 via GUM                | OZ702/625              | 12:25pm | 1:40am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| UA6394/PR111           | 4:15am | 9:20am  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM | PR110/UA6395           | 10:05pm | 8:05am+1  | Daily via GUM            |
| UA6398/183             | 6:05pm | 9:40pm  | 2, 5 via GUM             | UA192/6395             | 10:30pm | 8:05am+1  | 2, 5 via ROR-GUM         |
| UA6398/183             | 6:05pm | 9:50pm  | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM    | UA184/6395             | 10:55pm | 8:05am+1  | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM    |
| UA6398/193             | 6:05pm | 11:50pm | 2, 5 via GUM-ROR         |                        |         |           |                          |
| SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) |        |         |                          | HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN |         |           |                          |
| HX077                  | 1:50am | 5:15am  | 1, 4                     | OZ722/625              | 1:15pm  | 1:00am+1  | 7 via ICN                |
| OZ626/721              | 2:10am | 11:50am | 1 via ICN                | OZ722/625              | 1:15pm  | 1:40am+1  | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| OZ626/721              | 2:50am | 11:50am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN | HX076                  | 5:15pm  | 12:15am+1 | 3, 7                     |
| U043                   | 5:45am | 8:40am  | 1, 3, 5, 7               | U042                   | 6:50pm  | 1:45am+1  | 7                        |
| UA6398/159             | 6:05pm | 11:00pm | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM       | U042                   | 9:30pm  | 4:25am+1  | 2, 4, 6                  |
|                        |        |         |                          | UA116/6395             | 11:55pm | 8:05am+1  | 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM       |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

| STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC. |           |         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| SAIPAN TO ROTA          |           |         |           |
| FLIGHT #                | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 1301                    | 7:30AM    | 8:00AM  | Daily     |
| 1302                    | 11:30AM   | 12:00PM | Daily     |
| 1303                    | 4:00PM    | 4:30PM  | Daily     |
| ROTA TO SAIPAN          |           |         |           |
| FLIGHT #                | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 3101                    | 8:15AM    | 8:45AM  | Daily     |
| 3102                    | 1:45PM    | 2:15PM  | Daily     |
| 3103                    | 4:45PM    | 5:15PM  | Daily     |
| ROTA TO GUAM            |           |         |           |
| FLIGHT #                | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 3401                    | 12:15PM   | 12:45PM | Daily     |
| GUAM TO ROTA            |           |         |           |
| FLIGHT #                | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 4301                    | 1:00PM    | 1:30PM  | Daily     |
| SAIPAN TO TINIAN        |           |         |           |
| FLIGHT #                | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 1201                    | 7:00AM    | 7:15AM  | Daily     |
| 1202                    | 8:00AM    | 8:15AM  | Daily     |
| 1203                    | 9:00AM    | 9:15AM  | Daily     |

| TINIAN TO SAIPAN |           |         |           |
|------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| FLIGHT #         | DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL | FREQUENCY |
| 2102             | 7:30AM    | 7:45AM  | Daily     |
| 2103             | 8:30AM    | 8:45AM  | Daily     |
| 2104             | 9:30AM    | 9:45AM  | Daily     |
| 2105             | 10:30AM   | 10:45AM | Daily     |
| 2106             | 11:30AM   | 11:45AM | Daily     |
| 2107             | 12:30PM   | 12:45PM | Daily     |
| 2108             | 1:30PM    | 1:45PM  | Daily     |
| 2109             | 2:30PM    | 2:45PM  | Daily     |
| 2110             | 3:30PM    | 3:45PM  | Daily     |
| 2111             | 4:30PM    | 4:45PM  | Daily     |
| 2112             | 5:30PM    | 5:45PM  | Daily     |
| 2113             | 6:30PM    | 6:45PM  | Daily     |



## Guam hospital to keep Medicare provider status

WASHINGTON, D.C.—It has been decided that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services will not terminate Guam Memorial Hospital Authority's Medicare provider status at this time, according to Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) yesterday.

In a statement from Bordallo's office, it said that CMS decided yesterday not to proceed with a termination action against GMHA until a future compliance survey is completed.

The hospital was in danger of having its Medicare provider status terminated as early as Oct. 3, 2018, after an April 2018 survey found that it was out of compliance with several conditions of participation for the Medicare program.

This followed the submission of an allegation of compliance and evidence of correction by GMHA, which CMS determined to be credible.

CMS noted that it continues to investigate a complaint regarding a fire at the hospital on July 27, 2018, which may affect future compliance enforcement actions.

"Guam Memorial Hospital is a critical provider of Medicare and Medicaid services on Guam. I am pleased that the federal Centers for Medi-

care and Medicaid Services has decided not to terminate GMH's Medicare provider status, which would have had

a devastating effect on health-care for many in our community," said Bordallo.

"I am encouraged by

GMH's submission and implementation of a plan of correction, and I hope that they will continue to live up

to the standards required by the Medicare program. While this is good news to get GMH out of the immediate threat of Medicare decertification, I continue working to establish

a federal task force to provide our public hospital with needed federal technical assistance to improve the quality and delivery of service to our people. (PR)

# #10

# PLEASE VOTE

## TORRES-MCGINNIS STANLEY TUDELA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES • PRECINCT 3



Former Congressman STANLEY Tudela MCGINNIS TORRES signing the agreement deeding his farm plot on Kannat Tabla hill to CUC for perpetual use to build a Million Gallon Water tank to save sweet spring artesian water building up under a boulder for public use and to help guarantee 24/7 water for the people of Saipan – Precinct 3.

Spring 1991 Standing L to R: Late Lt. Governor Benjamin T. Manglona, Rep. Jess Attao, Late Ray Guerrero (Kumoi), (Stanley-center), Late Governor Larry Guerrero and Lupe Manacop.

Stanley said that the agreement is still in effect and AWAITING the much needed water tank. Call 287-7826 for details.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Torres-McGinnis Stanley Tudela



IF YOU FEEL DIFFERENT  
YOU DRIVE DIFFERENT  
DRIVE HIGH GET A DUI

**Have a Safe Labor Day!**

September 3, 2018



**CNMI Department of Public Safety. For more information call:**

**SAIPAN 664-9131/9084 | TINIAN 433-9222/2041 | ROTA 532-9433/9530**

**www.dps.gov.mp**

*The Department of Public Safety is an equal opportunity provider and employer*



# Business

## Canada stunned and worried about Trump trade threats

**TORONTO (AP)**—It started with President Donald Trump's attacks on Canadian dairy farmers. Then Washington slapped tariffs on Canadian steel, citing national security. There was that disastrous G-7 summit in Quebec. Now it's a new North American free trade agreement that excludes America's northern neighbor.

Canadians are stunned by the repeated broadsides from what has long been their closest ally and some have even begun boycotts.

"Everybody is afraid," said Margot Lajeunesse, who helps run a family-owned bistro in Quebec. "We de-

pend a lot on the U.S."

About 75 percent of Canada's exports go to the U.S. so the tariff threat looms large after Trump snubbed Canada and reached a preliminary deal with Mexico.

LaLa Bistro, owned by the Lajeunesse family, is among Canadian businesses that are boycotting California wines, American ketchup and other U.S. products in protest. Some Canadians have cancelled U.S. vacations, particularly after Trump assailed Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at the G-7 meeting in June, calling him a "weak" and "dishonest" back-stabber.

"It's not the way you treat a friend," Lajeunesse said.

"It's revolting, agreed Raymond Kennedy, who has ceased buying American products like mustard and clothing. "We won't be insulted like that, by a man with no brain."

Luc Routhier, co-owner of Bar Le P'tit Canot in Quebec, also banned American wine from his eatery after Trump announced tariffs on Canadian aluminum and threatened Quebec's dairy industry.

"I'm not even going to the U.S. this year," he said. "I'm a golfer, and normally I do two trips a year to the U.S. with my buddies."

"I'll only go back to the United States when Trump is gone."

To intensify the pressure on Canada, Trump threatened this week to impose new taxes on Canadian auto imports if Canada didn't ne-

gotiate "fairly." Canada must now decide whether to sign onto an agreement it didn't negotiate, or risk that the U.S. and Mexico will make good on threats to do a two-way deal that excludes it.

Canada could lose 60,000

jobs in a trade war and take a 1 percent hit to its GDP—a significant drop because Canada's economy is projected to grow just 2 percent next year, according to estimates from the C.D. Howe Institute, a Toronto-based think tank.

## Tabloid that kept Trump secrets faces losses, legal trouble

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The National Enquirer has long explained its support for Donald Trump as a business decision based on the president's popularity among its readers. But private financial documents and circulation figures obtained by The Associated Press show that the tabloid's business was declining even as it published stories attacking Trump's political foes and, prosecutors claim, helped suppress stories about his alleged sexual affairs.

The Enquirer's privately held parent company, American Media Inc., lost \$72 million for the year ending in March, the records obtained by the AP show. And despite AMI chairman David Pecker's claims that the Enquirer's heavy focus on Trump sells

magazines, the documents show that the Enquirer's average weekly circulation fell by 18 percent to 265,000 in its 2018 fiscal year from the same period the year before—the greatest percentage loss of any AMI-owned publication. The slide follows the Enquirer's 15 percent circulation loss for the previous 12 months, a span that included the presidential election.

More broadly, the documents obtained by the AP show that American Media isn't making enough money to cover the interest accruing on its \$882 million in long-term debt and that the company expects "continued declines in circulation and advertising revenues" in the current year. That leaves AMI reliant on debt to keep its operations afloat and finance

a string of recent acquisitions that are transforming the tabloid news industry.

That creditor backstopping AMI is a New Jersey investment fund called Chatham Asset Management. Its top executive dined with Pecker and Trump at the White House last year, and the fund has both a history of Republican political donations and ties to the administration of former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, which awarded it hundreds of millions of dollars in state retirement funds to manage.

AMI's current debts stem from the declining fortunes of the magazine industry and a series of acquisitions. Chatham has kept this number from ballooning further by converting some of the debt it is owed into shares in the company.



### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd floor-Oleai Joeten Commercial Center,  
Saipan, MP 96950



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW18-RFP-010

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES FOR ROUTE 33 (BEACH ROAD) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. CM-NH-0033 (023)

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works are soliciting sealed proposals for the **Archaeological Services for Route 33 (Beach Road) Improvement, Saipan** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated 2004 Ed. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **\$70-30.3-310** of the regulations.

The Scope of Work is available on or after August 31, 2018 at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office No. 214, Saipan.

A Pre-proposal Conference is not required, however, questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division no later than 4:30 p.m. local time September 7, 2018.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:** This procurement is made in accordance with **\$70-30.3-310** of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated 2004 Ed. Proposals will be evaluated based on Qualifications of the principal and assigned staff; Experience of the firm(s) on similar type projects and Fee.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (résumés and experience). Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Sealed proposals must be marked **"DPW18-RFP-010"**. For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and two (2) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **October 01, 2018** to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **October 01, 2018**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@cnmidof.net](mailto:procurement@cnmidof.net). For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and two (2) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 01, 2018** AND must be received no later than **October 10, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, Procurement & Supply



### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, MP 96950



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS DPW18-RFP-009

### DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE OF THE MARPO HEIGHTS II PAVING, TINIAN

Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Department of Public Works are soliciting sealed proposals for the **Design and Environmental Clearance of the Marpo Heights II Paving, Tinian** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated 2004 Ed. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with **\$70-30.3-305** of the regulations.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Esther S. Fleming, Executive Director, at (670) 234-5897/5898 or fax (670) 234-6040.

The Scope of Work is available on or after **August 24, 2018** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office No. 214, Saipan.

A Pre-Proposal Conference is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time **September 12, 2018** at the **Tinian Mayor Office** Conference Room. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to George C. Sablan, Acting Director of Technical Services Division no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **September 21, 2018**.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:** This procurement is made in accordance with **\$70-30.3-305** of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, 2004 ed. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff – 25%
2. Experience of the firm(s) on similar type projects – 25%
3. Project Approach – 35%
4. Schedule of Completion – 15%

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. Fee proposals are solicited; however, this information shall not be considered in the selection of the most highly qualified Firms. Fee proposals may be used in determining a fair and reasonable price.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (résumés and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, *cannot* submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Sealed proposals must be marked **"DPW18-RFP-009"**. For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and nine (9) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 26, 2018** to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, located at the former Emergency Management Office, Ascension Drive, Building No. 1301, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **September 26, 2018**, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@cnmidof.net](mailto:procurement@cnmidof.net). For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 26, 2018** AND must be received no later than **October 5, 2018**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

PETER P. CAMACHO  
Acting Secretary of Public Works

HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director, Procurement & Supply



# Nation

## Victim’s family calls ex-cop’s 15-year sentence too short

DALLAS (AP)—A Texas jury gave a white former police officer too lenient of a punishment when sentencing him to 15 years for the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager who was in a car leaving a house party, the victim’s family members said.

Roy Oliver fired into the car filled with teens the night of the April 2017 party in suburban Dallas, killing 15-year-old Jordan Edwards.

“He can actually see life again after 15 years and that’s not enough because Jordan can’t see life again,” Edwards’ stepmother, Charmaine Edwards, said of Oliver after he was sentenced Wednesday night.

She praised the work of prosecutors as well as the jury’s decision to convict Oliver of murder on Tuesday. But she wanted that same jury to send Oliver to prison for a longer period.

Daryl Washington, an attorney for Edwards’ father, said the sentence could have been longer but still sends a message.

“We know that there are parents all over this country who would love to see the person who took the life of their kid spend the next 15 years in prison,” Washington said.

Prosecutors had asked for a minimum of 60 years in prison.

The murder conviction was extremely rare for a shooting involving an on-duty officer. Oliver’s defense team said it had already begun the process of appealing. His attorneys said he would be eligible for parole after 7 ½ years, but they also said they were concerned about his safety in prison and that authorities will take extra precautions to protect him.

Oliver was a police officer in the community of Balch Springs when he and his partner responded to reports of underage drinking at the party. Oliver fired into a car carrying Edwards and his friends, later saying he feared the vehicle was moving toward and en-



Oliver

dangering his partner. Edwards, who was in the front passenger seat, was shot.

The jury deliberated late into the night before settling on a prison sentence, which also included a \$10,000 fine. Earlier, they heard from Oliver’s mother, Linda, who said he was a good man and a devoted father and asked jurors for a five-year sentence, saying her young grandson needs his father’s support.

“He needs his father’s love. He needs his father’s income. He needs his father’s guidance,” she said.

Oliver’s wife also testified, saying in Spanish through an interpreter that she was concerned about their 3-year-old son, who is autistic. But the ex-officer’s half sister took the stand against him, saying she felt compelled to do so after listening to testimony during the trial and that she hoped he “gets what he deserves.”

### ASIAN BRIEFS

**Glider crashes in mountains, killing all 3 people on board**

STOWE, Vt. (AP)—A glider has crashed in the mountains in Vermont, killing all three people on board. State police say search and rescue crews reached the wreckage near the summit of Sterling Mountain late Wednesday and discovered the bodies of the glider pilot and two passengers. Their names have not been released. State police say a tow plane with the glider attached took off from the Morrisville-Stowe State Airport around 11:30 a.m. The glider disconnected a short time later. Morrisville police received a report that the glider was missing shortly before 2 p.m. It was later spotted about 1,000 feet (305 meters) from the summit of Sterling Mountain. The glider was owned by Stowe Soaring. The Federal Aviation Administration and the National Transportation Safety Board are investigating the crash.

**Scaffolding collapse sends 2 plunging to deaths near Disney**

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Officials say they don’t know what caused scaffolding to collapse, sending two construction workers falling to their deaths as they were pouring

concrete on the seventh floor of a 16-story hotel under construction near Disney World. Fire Rescue spokesman Mike Jachles said happened early Wednesday in Orange County, just outside Disney property. He says about 18 workers were at the scene when they got the call about the accident at 4:15 a.m. They were working at the top of the hotel, above the sixth floor, where concrete is being poured. Jachles says that the support structure gave way, sending two workers plummeting to their deaths. A third worker hung on and sustained minor injuries. Jachles says the sheriff’s office and federal investigators are examining what happened.

**Fetus found in Los Angeles supermarket bathroom**

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles police are investigating after a fetus was found dead in the bathroom of a supermarket. Authorities say the fetus, which was about six months into gestation, was discovered Wednesday afternoon in a toilet at a Ralphs store in Sherman Oaks. Police later located and questioned a woman they believe to be the mother. There was no immediate arrest pending further investigation into how the fetus died.



### Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



## INVITATION FOR BIDS

### CUC-IFB-18-030

#### SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF PRESTRESSED CONCRETE POWER POLES (FEMA Water System Mitigation Project)

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles for Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-18-030, Supply & Delivery of Prestressed Concrete Power Poles” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 7, 2018**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier’s check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers’ questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI’s Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI’s Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor’s preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from FEMA and the CUC, Board of Directors.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 23, 2018** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address-manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Adrian Reyes, CUC Power Division, Jr. Engineer via email address-adrian.reyes@cucgov.org, Yvonne Cabrera, CUC Water Division, Jr. Engineer via email address-yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant via email address - christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY P. CAMACHO  
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

### DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan  
Tel. No.: 664-8300 | Fax No.: 664-8315 | www.dcrm.gov.mp



## As of August 31, 2018

## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

| APPLICANT   | DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED    | APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION  | LOCATION     | TYPE                             | STATUS                 |
|---|------------------------------|--|--------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Md. Nurul Islam Bhuiyan                                | 8/13/2018<br>SW-2018-X-184   | Land clearing  | Fina Sisu    | Wetlands & Mangroves             | Approved*<br>8/21/2018 |
| 2. Micronesia Resort, Inc.<br>dba Kensington Hotel Saipan | 8/13/2018<br>SLR-2018-X-185  | Non-Motorized Marine Sports-<br>Kayak, Snorkel, & SUP  | San Roque    | Lagoon & Reef                    | Approved*<br>8/16/2018 |
| 3. Construction & Materials<br>Supply Incorporated        | 8/2/2018<br>SMS-95-X-43      | Batching Plant & Quarry<br>Operations  | Kannat Tabla | Major Siting<br>Amendment 2018-1 | Under Review           |
| 4. Zone D Development, LTD.                               | 8/22/2018<br>SSCH-2018-X-186 | Single family residential<br>house renovation  | Lower Base   | Shoreline                        | Under Review           |
| 5. Micronesia Resort, Inc.<br>dba Kensington Resort       | 8/22/2018<br>SLR-2018-X-187  | Installation of temporary<br>marker buoys for<br>Non-Motorized<br>water sports course<br>& swim zone | San Roque    | Lagoon & Reef                    | Approved*<br>8/30/2018 |

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# Asia

## Farm in S. Korean road tunnel no rose-colored pipe dream

**OKCHEON, South Korea** (AP)—Behind a blue wall that seals a former highway tunnel stretches a massive indoor farm bathed in rose-tinted light.

Fruits and vegetables grow hydroponically — with no soil — in vertically stacked layers inside, illuminated by neon-pink LEDs instead of sunlight.

Operators of this high-tech facility in South Korea say it is the world's first indoor vertical farm built in a tunnel. It's also the largest such farm in the country and one of the biggest in the world, with a floor area of 2,300 square meters (25,000 square feet), nearly half the size of an American football field.

Indoor vertical farming is seen as a potential solution to the havoc wreaked on crops by the extreme weather linked to climate change and to shortages of land and workers in countries with aging populations.

The tunnel, about 190 kilometers (120 miles) south of Seoul, was built in 1970 for one of South Korea's first major highways. Once a symbol of the country's industrialization, it closed in 2002. An indoor farming company rented the tunnel from the government last year and transformed it into a "smart farm."

Instead of the chirrups of cicadas, Claude Debussy's "Clair de Lune" resonates in the tunnel in hopes of stimulating the crops' healthy growth.

"We are playing classical music because vegetables also love listening to music like we



In this Aug. 9, 2018, photo, head of NextOn Choi Jae Bin explains about his farm's crop cultivation system next to sesame leaves growing on vertically stacked styrofoams at the tunnel-based vertical indoor farm NextOn in Okcheon, South Korea.

AP

do," said Choi Jae Bin, head of NextOn, the company that runs the vertical farm.

Sixty types of fruits and vegetables grow in optimized conditions using NextOn's own growth and harvest systems. Among them, 42 are certified as no-pesticide, no-herbicide and non-GMO products, said Dave Suh, NextOn's chief technology officer.

He said the tunnel provides temperatures of 10 to 22 degrees Celsius (50 to 72 Fahrenheit), enabling the company to optimize growing conditions.

High-tech smart farms, used also in places like Dubai and Israel where growing conditions are challenging, can be a key to developing sustainable agriculture, experts said.

"Society is aging and urbanization is intensifying as

our agricultural workforce is shrinking," said Son Jung Eek, a professor of plant science at Seoul National University. Smart farming can help address that challenge, he said, as well as make it easier to raise high-value crops that are sensitive to temperature and other conditions.

Only slightly more than 16 percent of South Korea's land was devoted to farming in 2016, according to government statistics. The rural population has fallen by almost half over the past four decades, even as the overall population has grown nearly 40 percent.

The Agriculture Ministry announced earlier this year that it will invest in smart farm development nationwide, expanding their total area to

7,000 hectares (17,000 acres) from the current 4,010 hectares (9,900 acres).

Turning a profit can be challenging for indoor vertical farms given the high cost of construction and infrastructure. NextOn cut construction costs in half by using the abandoned tunnel and developing its own LED lights and other technologies.

The proprietary technologies reduce water and energy use and the need for workers, cutting operation costs, Suh said. Sensors in each vertical layer measure variables such as temperature, humidity, light, carbon dioxide and micro-dust levels to maintain an optimized environment for each crop.

The crops will cost less than conventionally grown organic vegetables, Suh said.

## Indian Supreme Court orders house arrest for activists

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—India's top court ordered Wednesday that five prominent rights activists arrested for alleged Maoist links be kept under house arrest instead of police custody until it rules next week on a petition challenging their detention.

Police, meanwhile, broke up a protest in southern India against the arrests and detained about two dozen people.

Attorney Prashant Bhushan said the court order will prevent police from taking the five to the western city of Pune, where authorities are investigating their alleged links to Maoist rebels in various parts of the country.

The Supreme Court also ordered the federal and state governments to provide detailed reasons for their arrests by Sept. 5. It set Sept. 6 for the next hearing in the case.

Those arrested on Tuesday were Telugu-language poet Varavara Rao in Hyderabad, Vernon Gonzales and Arun Ferreira in Mumbai, and Gautam Navalakha and Sudha Bhardwaj in New Delhi and a neighbouring town.

Police accused the five of delivering speeches that triggered protests and violence between low-caste Dalits and right-wing groups near Pune in December.

The justices asked prosecutors why the police have taken eight months after the incident to arrest the five activists. They said the activists were reputed citizens and stifling the dissent was not good.

"Dissent is the safety valve of democracy and if you don't allow these safety valves, it will burst," the Press Trust of India news agency quoted Chief Justice Dipak Mishra and Justices A.M. Khanwilkar and D.Y. Chandrachud as saying during court proceedings.

The government says Maoist rebels, who are active in several states, are India's biggest internal security threat. The rebels, inspired by Chinese revolutionary leader Mao Zedong, have been fighting the government for more than four decades, demanding land and jobs for the poor and indigenous communities.

## China denies Trump's claim it hacked Clinton's emails

**BEIJING** (AP)—China has denied an accusation by U.S. President Donald Trump that it hacked the emails of Hillary Clinton, his Democratic opponent in the 2016 election.

"We are firmly opposed to all forms of cyberattacks and espionage," foreign ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said at a regular briefing Wednesday. She said China is a staunch defender of cybersecurity.

Trump tweeted shortly after midnight that China had hacked Clinton's emails, without offering any evidence or further information, and

suggested that the FBI and Department of Justice should investigate.

"Hillary Clinton's Emails, many of which are Classified Information, got hacked by China. Next move better be by the FBI & DOJ," he tweeted.

U.S. intelligence agencies have accused Russia of involvement in the hacking of Democratic emails during the 2016 election campaign. The Justice Department has indicted 12 Russian intelligence officers accused of hacking into Clinton's presidential campaign and the Democratic Party.



### INVITATION FOR BID

#### CONSTRUCTION OF PARKING LOT FOR SISTER REMEDIOS COMMUNITY CENTER

Karidat is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the construction of a parking lot for the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan.

Scope of work is available beginning August 23, 2018 at the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center. Requests may be sent via email to Judith Pangelinan at [judypangelinan@karidat.org](mailto:judypangelinan@karidat.org).

Questions or requests for clarification must be in writing and addressed to Ms. Judith I. Pangelinan and may be sent via email at [judypangelinan@karidat.org](mailto:judypangelinan@karidat.org) no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM. Response to questions will be no later than September 14, 2018 at 4:00 PM.

The Award of this project is contingent upon final approval the Karidat Board of Directors.

Bids must be placed in a sealed envelope marked "Sister Remedios Community Center Parking Lot" containing one (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the Karidat Administration Office at the Sister Remedios Community Center located on Chalan Kanoa Drive in Chalan Kanoa Village, Saipan, no later than September 17, 2018 at 10:00 AM, at which time the bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

/s/ Lauri B. Ogumoro  
Executive Director

/s/ Judith I. Pangelinan  
Administrative Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp)

Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>



### INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Thursday, September 27, 2018 • TIME: 10:00 AM

#### NMHC IFB 2018-009

##### Ground Maintenance Services for NMHC's Properties in Saipan

Proposal packets will be available on August 31, 2018, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

*The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.*

A **Mandatory Pre-Bid conference** will be held at 10:00 a.m. on September 14, 2018, at the NMHC Central Office Conference Room in Garapan, Saipan.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Acting Office Manager, at (670)234-6866/7689 during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ **Aubry Hocog**  
Chairwoman  
NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan**  
Director  
Division of Procurement & Supply



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

**Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office**

Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice

P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950

Telephone (670) 236-9770 Facsimile (670)236-9797

#### INVITATION TO BID ITB NO.: ITB18-JUDICIARY-10

**SUBMISSION DATE: September 19, 2018 TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

##### **"PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE (4 Door Sedan) FOR THE CNMI Judiciary, Law Revision Commission"**

The Commonwealth Judiciary ("Judiciary") is soliciting invitation for bids for four door sedan for the Law Revision Commission.

The Invitation for Bids and supporting documents may be obtained at the cashier's window, Window #1, located at the front of the Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement Regulations, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 prohibiting gratuities, kickbacks and contingent fees shall apply.

/s/ **ALEXANDRO C. CASTRO**  
CHIEF JUSTICE

/s/ **JOHN T. VILLAGOMEZ**  
JUDICIARY PROCUREMENT OFFICER



# World

## Pope's cover-up crisis turns battle lines into first salvo

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The author of the bombshell accusation of sex abuse cover-up against Pope Francis denied Wednesday he acted out of revenge or anger, breaking his silence as his claims continued to divide a Catholic Church already polarized under Francis' reformist agenda.

While the Vatican is no stranger to scandal, leaks or plots, Archbishop Carlo Maria Vigano's j'accuse has weakened a papacy already under fire for Francis' poor record on dealing with sex abuse cases, and has intensified a long-simmering ideological battle between right and left for the soul of the Catholic Church.

Vigano told an Italian journalist he was "serene and at peace" after publishing his allegation-laden declaration, albeit saddened by subsequent attempts to undermine his credibility.

"I spoke out because by now the corruption has arrived at the top of the church hierarchy," Vigano was quoted as saying.

For the church's conservatives, Vigano's 11-page manifesto, published on Sunday, is a courageous denunciation of sex abuse cover-up and cor-

ruption. For Francis' reformist supporters, it's an angry diatribe from a homophobic bishop embittered that he never got the cardinal's red hat he so craved.

Both sides, however, agree Vigano's accusations require a response given that, as the former chief Vatican diplomat in the U.S., he was in a position to know certain information. Francis' decision to punt—"I won't say a word on this," he declared Sunday—hasn't helped his cause or satisfied the faithful.

"I do think this is a crisis in trust and authority that comes really close to the Lutheran Reformation in the early 16th century," said Christopher Bellitto, church historian at Kean University in New Jersey. "It's like a marriage: When trust is questioned you can go forward, but it's not the same."

In his letter Vigano accused a long list of U.S. and Vatican officials—including Popes Benedict XVI and Francis—of covering up for ex-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, the retired archbishop of Washington, whose penchant for sleeping with seminarians was appar-

ently an open secret in some church circles for over a decade.

Francis last month removed McCarrick as a cardinal and ordered him to a lifetime of penance and prayer after a U.S. church investigation determined that an allegation he groped a teen-age altar boy in the 1970s was credible.

Up until then, the only accu-

sations against McCarrick had involved sleeping with adult seminarians—a clear abuse of power that was perhaps quietly tolerated in the pre-#MeToo era, but doesn't fly now.

Vigano said he informed Francis of McCarrick's history with seminarians at a meeting on June 23, 2013, and accused the pope of turning a blind eye

and effectively rehabilitating McCarrick from the sanctions he claims Benedict had imposed in 2009 or 2010.

There is ample evidence, however, that any sanctions, if they existed, were never fully enforced since McCarrick travelled widely for the church in those years and participated in official church functions,

including alongside Vigano, who was responsible for enforcing the sanctions.

Vigano insisted Francis must resign, given the explosion of the McCarrick scandal in the U.S. and a string of other gay sex abuse and cover-up cases in the church in Chile, Honduras and Australia that have implicated several of Francis' top advisers.

## Outcry over retirement age plan brings rare Putin concession

MOSCOW (AP)—Facing protests and a noticeable dip in his approval ratings, President Vladimir Putin made rare concessions Wednesday to an unpopular pension reform package that increased the retirement age for Russians.

The televised address marked an extraordinary occasion when Putin apparently felt compelled to explain a major policy decision to the public, reflecting the contentious nature of the retirement reforms.

The general idea of increasing the retirement age was justified because of Russia's economy and demographic trends and "cannot be put off any longer," Putin said.

Without such a move, Russia's pension system "would crack and eventually collapse," he said, adding: "I'm asking you to be understanding of this."

In softening the plan, he said the new retirement age for women will be raised only to 60 from the current 55, instead of the previous government proposal to increase it to 63.

Left unchanged, however, was increasing the retirement age for men from 60 to 65.

Russia's economy has been hobbled in recent years by falling oil prices and Western sanctions over the 2014 annexation of Crimea. The country also faces a demographic

crisis in the coming years as a result of the extremely low birth rates that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The retirement age is supposed to be raised gradually—by one year every year over the next five years.

The softening of the proposal for women, to five years instead of eight, was because of what Putin called the important role women play in Russian society.

"In our country, we treat women in a special, caring way," he said.

The government's plan to raise the retirement age initially was announced by the government in June on the

first day of the World Cup in Russia, when the attention of most of the country was focused on soccer.

Putin has refrained from commenting on the subject for weeks, while a widespread outcry over the move began emerging. Alexei Navalny, one of Putin's biggest opponents, has called for nationwide demonstrations about it on Sept. 9, but on Monday, he was jailed for 30 days over an unsanctioned protest seven months earlier.

The pension proposals have affected Putin's approval ratings, which have dropped from 80 percent to under 70 percent—his lowest since before the Crimea annexation.



### COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP NO.: CPA-RFP-001-19

### PASSENGER LOADING BRIDGE MAINTENANCE SERVICE

#### SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT/PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-001-19

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is requesting proposals from qualified and experienced companies, corporations, and/or firms to provide the CPA with Passenger Loading Bridge Maintenance Services. The Executive Director determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because the CPA wishes to acquire services and or products that cannot be evaluate by cost alone (NMIAC S 40-50-225(a)).

All works shall take place at the Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Proposal Package is available for pick-up beginning August 24, 2018, at the Executive Director's Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan Int. Airport. The proposer shall guarantee that all contents of their proposal shall be valid for a period of 90 calendar days from the due date of proposals.

A mandatory pre-bid meeting will take place on September 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM at the CPA conference room, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building for questions and/or clarifications on this project. Proposals will only be accepted from those proposers who attended this meeting.

Proposers are to submit one (1) original and two (2) copies of their proposals to the Office of the Executive Director no later than 4:00 PM, September 21, 2018.

This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-40 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIAC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects of said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director



### COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY CNMI GOVERNMENT

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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-011-18

### PROCUREMENT, INSTALLATION & COMMISSIONING OF SECURITY CAMERAS AND SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM PORT OF SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the procurement, installation & commissioning of security cameras and surveillance systems at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Proposal Package and other considerations will be available for pick up beginning August 17, 2018 at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Procurement, Installation & Commissioning of Security Cameras and Surveillance System, Port of Saipan, Project No. CPA-RFP-011-18". One original and three copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. LOCAL TIME, SEPTEMBER 14, 2018 to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All Proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the CPA Seaport Conference Room located at the Port of Saipan on August 31, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only those vendors present at the pre-proposal conference will be allowed to submit proposals. A site visit will be conducted immediately after the conference or may be requested by making appointments with the CPA Ports Manager, Rodney James Taisacan to ensure that proposers submitting a proposal are aware of the general area where the surveillance cameras and systems are to be installed.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejections or cancellations; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

This Project is funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director



# Science & Technology

## Uber heads in new direction with Toyota on self-driving cars

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Uber is teaming up with Toyota to build self-driving cars for its ride-hailing service after its efforts to do it alone were de-

railed by a fatal collision and allegations of high-tech theft.

Toyota, based in Japan, is also investing \$500 million in Uber as part of the alliance an-

nounced Monday.

The deal aims to combine the best features from the two companies' work on autonomous technology into cars that

will be picking up Uber's customers by 2021.

By the time that happens, Uber hopes to have completed an initial public offering of stock that will enrich a list of early investors that now includes Toyota. Those investors have been pouring billions of dollars into Uber's revolutionary ride-hailing service that still hasn't proven it can make money since its inception nearly a decade ago.

Uber is counting on self-driving cars to help it turn the financial corner by reducing the need to pay human drivers who arrive to pick up passengers in private vehicles summoned through a smartphone app.

By expanding into autonomous vehicles, Uber also hopes to ward off a looming competitive threat from another early investor, Google and its self-driving car spin-off Waymo, which is poised to launch its own ride-hailing service in Ari-



This March 1, 2017, file photo shows an exterior view of the headquarters of Uber in San Francisco. Toyota will sink a half-billion dollars into Uber and work jointly with the ride-hailing giant to develop self-driving vehicles, a person briefed on the matter said Monday, Aug. 27, 2018.

AP

zona before the end of this year.

"Our goal is to deploy the world's safest self-driving cars on the Uber network, and this agreement is another significant step towards making that a reality," said Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi.

Meanwhile, Toyota is trying to evolve from a pure automobile maker into a "mobility

company," as are many of its industry peers, including General Motors and Ford in the U.S. That crusade has prodded decades-old automakers such as Toyota and GM to invest in and partner with technology companies working on self-driving cars while also opening up their own research hubs in Silicon Valley.

### TECH BYTES

#### Google denies Trump charge it rigs Trump news searches

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump is accusing Google and other U.S. tech companies of rigging search results about him "so that almost all stories & news is BAD"—and though he is offering no evidence, a top adviser says the White House is "taking a look" at whether Google should face federal regulation. Google is pushing back sharply, saying Trump's claim simply wasn't true: "We never rank search results to manipulate political sentiment." The president's tweets Tuesday echoed his familiar attacks on the news media—and a conservative talking point that California-based tech companies run by CEOs with liberal leanings don't give equal weight to opposing political viewpoints. They also revealed anew his deep-seated frustration over not getting the credit he believes he deserves.

#### High-speed internet access to expand in Nebraska

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP)—The Federal Communications Commission says nearly 9,000 rural Nebraska homes and businesses will be getting access to high-speed internet for the first time. The commission says four companies will receive more than \$41 million from the Con-

nect America Fund to expand broadband internet in dozens of Nebraska counties over the next 10 years. Most of the money will go to AMG Technology Investment Group LLC, which does business as Nextlink Internet. It will provide the new service to all but about 130 of the 8,900 properties.

#### Kentucky gov awards employee \$215,000 raise

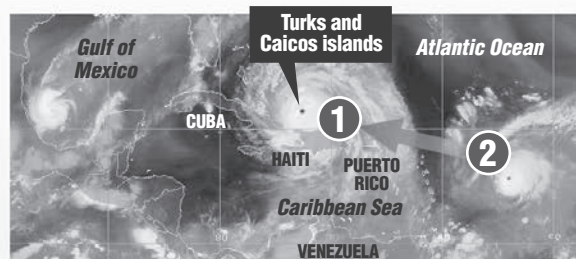
FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP)—Kentucky Gov. Matt Bevin has awarded a member of his administration a \$215,000 raise, leading the worker to make more than double the governor's salary. The Courier Journal reports the executive director of the Commonwealth Office of Technology, Charles Grindle, now makes around \$375,000 annually. The state government's online database of employee salaries says Grindle now is the highest paid employee in Bevin's administration. The 134 percent raise was awarded during a time when the state budget offered no raises for state government workers or teachers. The Kentucky Finance and Administration Cabinet, which houses the Commonwealth Office of Technology, says cost savings realized by Grindle's leadership cover the raise's cost. Grindle previously was paid \$160,000 annually. The newspaper says Grindle and Bevin's administration didn't respond to requests for comment.

### Science Matters

## 'Natural selection' at work in hurricane

After two record-breaking hurricanes hit a pair of small Caribbean islands, biologists studying the lizards there found particular anatomical traits gave some lizards an evolutionary advantage

- 1 Hurricane Irma** hit the Turks and Caicos in 2017 with 165 mph (265 km/h) wind
- 2 Two weeks later,** Hurricane Maria, struck with winds over 124 mph (200 km/h)



A Turks and Caicos anole (*Anolis scriptus*), sometimes mistakenly called a chameleon

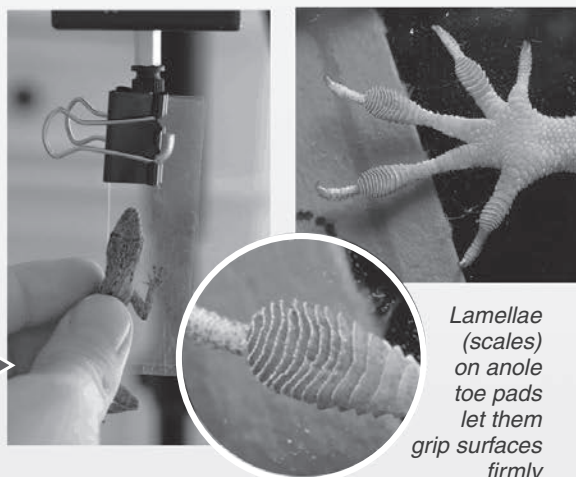
### Big toes: Winners

Before the storms, the biologists had been studying the islands' anole lizard population

After the storms, they found that anoles with large toes were more numerous than expected

This small variation in anatomy gave some anoles a survival advantage

**Experiment:** Researcher lets an anole grasp an instrument that measures its grip strength



Lamellae (scales) on anole toe pads let them grip surfaces firmly

Source: Colin Donihue of Harvard University; Paris Museum of Natural History; Nature Ecology and Evolution journal  
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service

## How to make online storage simpler

**Q:** My Windows 10 PC has two OneDrive online storage accounts that I'd like to combine and access with a single password. The personal account is tied to my Hotmail e-mail address and limited to 5 gigabytes of storage. The other, obtained through a subscription to Microsoft's Office 365 program and tied to a business e-mail, stores 100 gigabytes. Can I combine them?

**A:** Microsoft won't let you combine a personal OneDrive account with one obtained through an Office 365 subscription. But there are ways to work around that.

One is to set up OneDrive so that you can simultaneously view your two online storage accounts with a single password. To do that, open OneDrive using one of your e-mail addresses, then add the second e-mail address (see "If you already have an account signed in to OneDrive" at [tinyurl.com/yddb27j](http://tinyurl.com/yddb27j)).

But you may not find that method attractive because you'll still have to manage two accounts, one with only 5 gigabytes of storage, and the other with 100 gigabytes.

Another alternative is to quit using your personal account, and instead transfer all of its files to the Office 365 account. Even your combined files are unlikely to exceed the 100-gigabyte

### TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: [steve.j.alexander@gmail.com](mailto:steve.j.alexander@gmail.com). Please include a full name, city and phone number.



capacity of the business account, and you'd be able to access everything with one password.

**Q:** I'm having problems with the PC version of the instant messaging app Imo. I've been making video calls with Imo for months, but recently the audio has stopped working. The PC's audio still works for other online programs, such as YouTube. What can I do?

**A:** The free Imo Messenger software is popular partly because it's simple to use. But that ease-of-use doesn't extend to fixing it; there's little information about how to troubleshoot problems.

But, because you've been using an older version of the Imo software for several months, you may be able to fix the problem by downloading the latest version of the app (version 1.3.0), that was released in July for Windows 7, 8 and 10. (Read details of the latest version at [tinyurl.com/y93kvxeu](http://tinyurl.com/y93kvxeu) and download it at [tinyurl.com/y8urfzsd](http://tinyurl.com/y8urfzsd)).

Mac users can also download the Imo app. But they

must first download the "Bluestack" Android emulator program that allows a Mac to use an Imo program designed for Android phones or tablets. (See "How to download Imo for MAC" at [tinyurl.com/yax519vv](http://tinyurl.com/yax519vv)).

**Q:** I use Windows 10 Mail to handle my Frontiernet.net e-mail. When I find an error in my e-mail contact list, I delete that entry and replace it with a new one that has the right information. But when I send a new e-mail, the deleted and new contacts pop up as address choices. Why?

**A:** It may be caused by a software error that only Microsoft can fix. But consider this: You've been deleting flawed contact information from Windows 10 Mail. But maybe the flaw is really in Frontier's e-mail system, and when the two e-mail systems sync, flawed Frontier contact data is copied to Windows 10 Mail again. If so, you could fix it by turning off "contacts sync" in Windows 10 Mail (see [tinyurl.com/y78k3bga](http://tinyurl.com/y78k3bga)).



# Off The Wall

## OFFBEAT BRIEFS

### Supermarket shopper shocked by surprise snake on cart

**PITTSFORD, N.Y. (AP)**—A woman shopping for groceries says she was surprised to find a snake on her shopping cart while picking out produce at a New York supermarket. Laura Walitsky says she was at Wegmans in Pittsford on Monday evening when her daughter spotted the hitchhiking reptile wrapped on the bottom of her cart. The Rochester Democrat & Chronicle reports the woman then walked the cart outside and had her daughter tell customer service there was a snake on it. Walitsky was able to flag down two employees who removed the snake and placed it in a nearby wooded area. A Wegmans spokesperson said in a statement that “this was an isolated incident.” Biology professor Bradley Cosentino identified the pictured snake as a non-venomous milk snake, a common snake species.

### Tweet over deli packaging gets gov’s attention, and a change

**CONCORD, N.H. (AP)**—A supermarket customer’s tweet on stickers placed over the opening of bagged deli meats got the attention of New Hampshire’s governor, and a change. NH1 reports Londonderry Town Manager Kevin Smith recently took to Twitter to ask that the company, Market Basket, not put the price tag stickers over the zipper of the meat bag. He said it’s impossible to open it without destroying the bag. Gov. Chris Sununu responded, saying he has to re-bag cheese every time because of the problem. Market Basket answered that it would speak to its deli departments about it. On Tuesday, both Smith and Sununu tweeted that the stickers were moved to the bag itself.

### Rare translucent lobster caught off Maine coast, thrown back

**STONINGTON, Maine (AP)**—A Maine fisherman says he caught a rare, nearly see-through “ghost lobster,” then threw the crustacean back into the ocean because it was too small to keep. Mike Billings hauled in the lobster Tuesday morning off the coast of Stonington. The Portland Press Herald reports the lobster’s unique coloration is likely caused by a genetic condition that results in the partial loss of pigmentation. Billings says he took pictures of the lobster, and then threw it

back into the ocean. This is not Billings’ first encounter with odd lobsters, as he previously caught a rare calico lobster in 2014, the same year he caught one with one blue claw.

### Python discovered under hood of Wisconsin motorist’s SUV

**OMRO, Wis. (AP)**—A Wisconsin motorist was in for a slithery surprise after his mom’s sport utility vehicle began acting strangely. Chris Nguyen pulled over Wednesday night in the town of Omro and popped the SUV’s hood to find a 4-foot-long python inside. Fittingly, the snake damaged the engine’s serpentine belt. Omro police responded and tried to wriggle the snake from the engine. They called “The Snake Man” Steve Keller—a Menasha man who rescues snakes—for help. Authorities say the snake was identified as a ball python. Its owner said it’s been missing for more than a month. It’s illegal to have these snakes in Omro, so the snake’s owner was fined. WBAY-TV reports that police said they’d dismiss the ticket if the owner pays for damages to Liz Nguyen’s vehicle. Keller says he’ll adopt the python.

### Large European hornets’ nest removed from car in Ohio

**ALLIANCE, Ohio (AP)**—European Hornets have been removed after building a large nest in a car in Ohio, in a scene that looked like a horror movie. Travis Watson, who owns The Bee Man, was called into action after the nest was found inside the El Camino on Sunday. Watson tells WJW-TV the queens emerge from hibernation in April and it takes a long time to get workers in the nest. Once the queen starts to only lay eggs the nest starts growing quite rapidly in July. Watson says the hornets aggressively defend the nest and can sting repeatedly. He wore a triple-layer suit and sting-proof gloves while he blowing a powder into the nest. He removed the nest and disposed of it because, he says, the hornets do not pollinate like honey bees.

### Lab: 13 pounds of white powder seized is sugar, not fentanyl

**WILMINGTON, N.C. (AP)**—A North Carolina sheriff’s office thought it made a huge drug bust, seizing 13 pounds of fentanyl worth \$2 million on the street. The powder was found in a home along with other drugs and paraphernalia. A field test indicated it was the powerful opioid, just-

fying a host of charges against three suspects. Most of those charges soon evaporated when a state lab concluded that whatever the powder was, it wasn’t fentanyl. The sheriff’s office then sent the powder to a private lab, and the results arrived this week.

### Humpback whales spotted feeding in Boston Harbor

**BOSTON (AP)**—People taking whale watch cruises out of Boston usually have to travel miles out to sea to spot whales.

But several humpback whales have been spotted in the harbor in the last few days, providing thrills just a quarter mile from downtown Boston. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation posted a video on Twitter of a whale breaching, calling it a “beautiful and rare sight to see.” The presence of whales in the busy harbor also comes with a warning. The Coast Guard is urging mariners to use “extreme caution” and keep a safe distance from whales. A spokeswoman for Boston Harbor Cruises,

which offers whale-watching cruises, said company naturalists have identified five to six individual whales.

### Deputies: California man had 800 pounds of stolen lemons

**THERMAL, Calif. (AP)**—Talk about driving a lemon! Authorities say a man has been arrested in Southern California after deputies found about 800 pounds (363 kilograms) of stolen lemons inside his car. Riverside County sheriff’s officials say 69-year-old

Dionicio Fierros was arrested Friday and booked on a charge of theft of agricultural products. Deputies were investigating recent farm thefts when they stopped Fierros’ car in Thermal on Friday morning. Inside his car, deputies say they found several large bags of freshly picked lemons they say were stolen from a nearby farm. A telephone number for Fierros could not be located in public records and it wasn’t immediately clear if he had an attorney who could comment on the allegations.

IN LOVING MEMORY

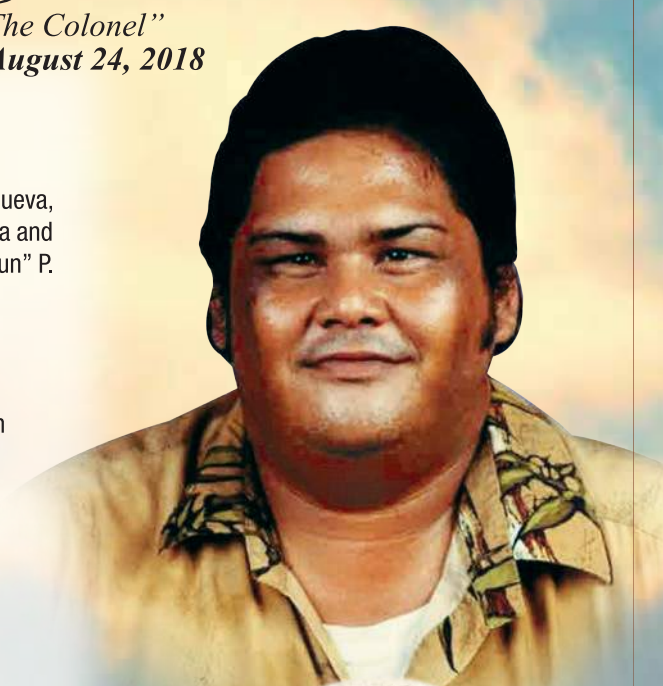

## Alexander Pangelinan Sablan

Known as “The Colonel”  
July 8, 1958 - August 24, 2018

**In his new life, †Alex joins his:**  
**Father:** †Eulogio Torres Sablan  
**Mother:** †Antonia Pangelinan Sablan  
**Brothers, sisters, and in-laws:** †Francisco P. Villanueva, †Delgadina V. Santos and †Nick Santos, †Jack P. Villanueva and †Margarita Villanueva, †Antonio P. Villanueva, +Eulogio “Jun” P. Sablan, †Alicia S. Saha, †William Salas

**His memory will live on in the hearts of his:**  
**Wife:** Romila E. Sablan  
**Sons:** Alexandro E. Sablan and Lyrics Eulogio E. Sablan  
**Brothers, sisters, and in-laws:**

- Herman S./Rita Sablan and Family
- Rosalia S./William Owens and Family
- Margaret S./Richard Dunn and Family
- Fermina S./Carlton Ihlan and Family
- Eulogio Miguel S./Emilia Sablan and Family
- Eugenio S./Carmela Sablan and Family
- Norbert S./Jean Sablan and Family
- Patricia P. Sablan and Family
- Diana P. Salas and Family
- Ana P. Yutig/Romeo Yutig and Family
- George P. Sablan/Joaquina and Family
- Dawn Sablan and Family
- Emy Ada and Family
- Bishwajit Saha and Family
- Sally Villanueva and Family
- Agnes Villanueva and Family
- Beth Egipto and Family
- Sammy Egipto and Family
- Alex Egipto and Family
- Lani Egipto and Family
- Melecia Egipto and Family
- Carmen Salas and Family

The “Colonel” will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, nieces, nephews, godchildren, cousins, and friends.

Daily mass of intention is held at San Antonio Church at 6pm until Friday, August 31. On Saturday, September 1 at 7:30am there will be a Christian service at the Commonwealth Health Center Chapel. At 8am our dear †Alex will be escorted from the CHC Chapel to San Antonio Church for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 11am, and then our beloved †Alex will be laid to rest at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

*Please join us in loving prayer and remembrance.*  
 Thank you – Si Yu’us Ma’ase – Salamat Po  
**Mila, Alexandro, Lyrics, and Family**

*For we walk  
by faith,  
not by sight.”*

*2 Corinthians 5:7*



# Life & Style

## Ed Sheeran plays himself in Danny Boyle's next film

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ed Sheeran plays himself in Danny Boyle's next film, his first significant role on the big screen.

In the movie written by Richard Curtis, former "East-Enders" star Himesh Patel plays a singer-songwriter who wakes up one day as the only person in the world who remembers the Beatles.

"And then I discover him and take him on tour. Then he gets much, much bigger than me through doing stuff. Yeah, it's very clever," Sheeran said in an interview this week. "I got to actually kind of learn how to act. ... With the 'Game of Thrones' thing, that was literally me popping in for a day and making a cameo. Or 'Bastard Executioner' was me popping in for a day.

But this was like full days on set, like full 12-hour days."

Sheeran completed his part of production earlier this year, in the middle of his latest tour. The as-yet-untitled movie is set for release in September 2019.



Sheeran

"They shot it around loads of my gigs. So it was a very intense two months. Because I would have four days of gigging and then three days of shooting a film," Sheeran said. "I was playing myself, so I don't think I was that

bad. There wasn't much to (mess) up."

The 27-year-old British pop star says his long-term goal in Hollywood is to make a movie musical in the vein of the 2007 Irish romance "Once."

"I want to make something like that. Something like that where songs dictate the film in a way," he said. "I can't see myself playing an Avenger, you know? I don't really want to be actor."

Sheeran was promoting a new Apple Music documentary "Songwriter," focused on the creation of his last album.

Directed by his cousin Murray Cummings, it includes a scene featuring Sheeran's fiancée Cherry Seaborn but doesn't delve

into his personal life.

"I give so much of myself in my songs and in just me. And there are just certain choices that I can make, that I can keep certain things private, basically," Sheeran said. "And I think my home and my family and my partner - I think those are things that they are very private, and they are the best things in my life. So I don't want to ruin them."

Sheeran declined to answer any questions about lawsuits alleging he improperly copied other artists' work in his hit "Thinking Out Loud" and in a song he wrote for Faith Hill and Tim McGraw.

"I really can't talk about that," he said. "After they're done, I will talk about it."

## John Krasinski tackles terror, career shift in 'Jack Ryan'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—John Krasinski comes across in conversation as a disarming match to his screen image, the sort of easy-going, decent guy he played on TV's "The Office" and in the romantic comedy "Away We Go."

Make that his former image. In a burst of creative versatility, he's fashioned himself into an acclaimed film director with "A Quiet Place" (in which he plays opposite wife Emily Blunt) and muscular heroes in the movie "13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi" and the new Amazon Prime Video series "Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan," debuting Friday.

In low-key style, Krasinski is proving that expectations are to be ignored. Who could have predicted that gangly, deskbound Jim of "The Office" would be hunting Middle Eastern terrorists as fledgling CIA analyst Ryan, or that the latest iteration of Clancy's big-canvas work would arrive—cinematically intact—on the small screen?

Such boundary-busting can be traced back to Krasinski's 2005-13 "Office" days, in the sitcom that he considered "the best thing out there, movie or television."

"I felt so proud to be a part of it, and so my definition of television and film was always blended. I never saw it as film or television, but rather just the best project going, the best character I



This image released by Amazon shows John Krasinski in a scene from "Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan." AP

can play," he said, something that's easier than ever to find on TV with the explosion of "really great shows."

The specific attraction of "Jack Ryan," his first series since "The Office," was both its form and content.

With the debut season's eight episodes (filming on season two is already underway), it's possible to reimagine and delve into the title role in ways not possible in a time-constrained movie, Krasinski said. And then there's the character himself, something of a childhood obsession for the actor.

"It may sound hokey, but I think that Jack Ryan was always one of those characters

that you actually thought you could be one day. You can't grow up to be Superman or Spider-Man," he said. It was plausible to imagine becoming Ryan, a man who "used his brain and his instincts and was able to do extraordinary things."

Casting the part was critical, said series creators and executive producers Carlton Cuse ("Lost") and Graham Roland ("Mile 22").

"Carlton told me, 'We could write the best show either of us have ever written, but if don't have the right guy playing Jack Ryan the show is just not going to work,'" Roland recalled. A winning "everyman qual-

ity" needed for Ryan came across in Krasinski's work in "The Office," they said, but it was "13 Hours" that cinched the deal.

"We felt, wow, this is the guy who not only has (Ryan's) charm and intelligence ... but he also had the physicality to be an action hero," Roland said.

The Amazon series rolls the videotape back to Ryan's early days with the CIA in an original story by Cuse and Roland. Viewers meet him butting heads with new boss James Greer (Wendell Pierce), a vice admiral and top-ranking CIA official in the late Clancy's works but in career-rebuilding mode here.

## Guillermo del Toro passionately pushes for gender equality

VENICE, Italy (AP)—Guillermo del Toro says a push for gender equality in Hollywood "is beyond a gesture, it's a need."

The Mexican director behind the Oscar-winning "The Shape of Water" was speaking Wednesday at the Venice International Film Festival, where he is head of this year's jury. In a passionate speech during the jury press conference, de Toro said: "The goal has to be clear and has to remain to be 50/50 by 2020."

"It's a real problem we have

in the culture in general. Many of the voices that should be heard, need to be heard," he said. "It needs to be solved in every one of our pertinent departments with strength and resolve."

This year's jury consists of five women and four men in an effort to readdress the imbalance that has occurred in previous years.

Australian actress Naomi Watts is on the panel—an

experience she hopes will be "life altering."

"To sit in a disciplined way and spend the next 10 days watching two to three films a day is extraordinary and I have just never had that opportunity. And to be amongst this group of people on this panel and with Guillermo leading it, I think it's going to be a really unique and really new experience."

Fellow jury member, New

Zealand comedy director Taika Waititi, joked that while comedy was his field of expertise, he was the right man for the job. "I have a very sensitive meter for tragedy and I like to think of myself sort of like the Tchaikovsky of comedy," he said.

Also on this jury is Taiwanese actress Sylvia Chang, Danish actress Trine Dyrholm, Polish filmmaker Malgorzata Szumowska, French actress Nicole Garcia, Italian filmmaker Paolo Genovese and Austrian actor Christoph Waltz.



del Toro



# Kanye West apologizes for saying slavery was 'a choice'

Kanye West apologized Wednesday on a Chicago radio station for calling slavery a "choice," and he broke down on air over an old friend.

"I don't know if I properly apologized for how that slave comment made people feel, so I want to take this moment right now to say that I'm sorry for hurting, I'm sorry for the one-two effect of the MAGA hat into the slave comment," West told 107.5 WGCI radio in his hometown.

"And I'm sorry for people

who felt let down by that moment, and also I appreciate you guys giving me the opportunity to talk to you about the way I was thinking and what I was going through and what led me to that," he said.

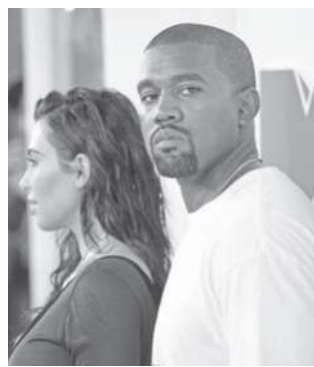
West also addressed a question that left him speechless on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" about why he feels President Donald Trump cares about black people. He later tweeted he wasn't stumped by the question and didn't much appreciate how the

show cut awkwardly to a commercial break after his extra-long pause.

He said he was just carefully considering his answer:

"I feel that (Trump) cares about the way black people feel about him, and he would like for black people to like him like they did when he was cool in the rap songs and all this," West told WGCI.

"He will do the things that are necessary to make that happen because he's got an ego like all the rest of us, and he wants



to be the greatest president, and he knows that he can't be the greatest president without the acceptance of the black com-

<sup>AP</sup>  
In this Aug. 28, 2016 file photo, Kim Kardashian West, left, and Kanye West arrive at the MTV Video Music Awards in New York.

munity," the rapper added. "So it's something he's gonna work towards, but we're gonna have to speak to him."

Late Wednesday, Trump tweeted a link to a Breitbart News story about the interview.

As for the field trip to the Los Angeles offices of TMZ in May, when he wore the "Make

America Great Again" red cap favored by Trump supporters and made the slavery remark, West said Don C—a former collaborator, tour manager and record exec—used to "have my back" and likely would have shut him down before things got out of hand.

"One thing that I got from the TMZ comment is that it showed me how much black people love me, and how much black people count on me and depend on me, and I appreciate that," West said. **(AP)**

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### 'Top Gun: Maverick' pushed, 'A Quiet Place' sequel sets date

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The "Top Gun" sequel is going to take a little longer to land in theaters. Paramount Pictures says Wednesday that "Top Gun: Maverick" is being pushed back a year to a June 26, 2020 theatrical release. The Tom Cruise-starrer is in production and had been previously set to fly into theaters next summer. The studio has also set a May 15, 2020 release date for a sequel to John Krasinski's breakout creature thriller "A Quiet Place." Krasinski is writing the follow-up, but no director has been set.

### Carrie Inaba, Ross Mathews tapped as 'Miss America' hosts

**ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP)**—"Dancing with the Stars" host Carrie Ann Inaba and television personality Ross Mathews will co-host this year's Miss America competition. Pageant officials made the announcement Wednesday. Inaba was the pageant's choreographer for many years, but will be hosting the show for the first time. Mathews will provide reports

throughout the evening from backstage while also providing commentary and updates. The next Miss America will be crowned at Atlantic City's Boardwalk Hall in a nationally televised broadcast on Sept. 9. It will be the first competition since the Miss America Organization made sweeping leadership changes in the wake of an email scandal that led to the ouster of the pageant's top leadership and eliminated the pageant's swimsuit competition.

### Eddie Murphy is going to be a father for the 10th time

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Eddie Murphy is going to be a father for the 10th time. The actor and comedian's publicist has issued a statement that the 57-year-old and longtime girlfriend Paige Butcher are expecting their second child in December. Their daughter, Izzy, is 2 years old. Murphy began a relationship with the Australian model in 2012. Murphy's oldest child is 29.

### Hacker of celebrity photos gets 8 months in prison

**BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (AP)**—A Connecticut man

who hacked into more than 200 iCloud accounts of Hollywood stars and other people has been sentenced to eight months in prison. George Garofano was sentenced Wednesday in federal court in Bridgeport. After prison, he must serve three years of supervised release and perform 60 hours of community service. The North Branford man was one of four men arrested in the 2014 hacking scandal that led to private photos of Jennifer Lawrence, Kirsten Dunst, Kate Upton and others being made public.

### Hacktivist drama 'Mr. Robot' to end with 4th season in 2019

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The hacktivist thriller "Mr. Robot" is coming to an end. USA Network said Wednesday the drama series starring Emmy Award-winner Rami Malek will air its fourth and final season in 2019. In a statement, "Mr. Robot" creator Sam Esmail says he decided that it was time to bring the story to a close next season. "Mr. Robot" will conclude the way he'd envisioned it since it began, Esmail says. Malek

plays Elliot, a troubled cybersecurity engineer and hacker who's drawn into a revolutionary movement. Christian Slater also stars in the Peabody Award-winning drama. An air date for the final season of "Mr. Robot" was not announced. Authorities say the hackers used a phishing scheme that sent emails appearing to be from Apple security accounts that asked for usernames and passwords. Garofano pleaded guilty in April and asked for leniency, saying he faces a lifetime loss of rights because of the felony conviction.

### 'Michael Jackson's Thriller 3D' to be remastered for IMAX

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Michael Jackson's estate and IMAX are partnering to digitally remaster "Michael Jackson's Thriller 3D" into IMAX 3D. The partnership was announced Wednesday, which would have been the singer's 60th birthday. It will be released in IMAX theaters across the U.S. for one week, beginning Sept. 21. The estate's co-executors say Jackson loved to give his fans the "latest and greatest in technology and entertainment experi-

ences." The short film, directed by John Landis, premiered in Los Angeles in 1983. The 3D version was first shown at the 74th Venice Film Festival in 2017. The remastered release precedes the launch of Amblin Entertainment's fantasy film, "The House with a Clock in Its Walls," starring Jack Black and Cate Blanchett. Jackson was 50 years old when he died in June 2009.

### Taylor Swift pays tribute to Aretha Franklin at Detroit show

**DETROIT (AP)**—Taylor Swift honored Aretha Franklin with a moment of silence during a concert in the Queen of Soul's hometown. Swift told a sold-out crowd at Detroit's Ford Field on Tuesday that Franklin did so much for music, women's rights and civil rights. Swift said words could never describe how many things Franklin did that made the world a better place. The pop star asked for a moment of silence so "every single one of us could reflect on our love and respect for her." After asking for the lights to go out, Swift said, "We love you Aretha." The public is paying respects

to Franklin during a two-day viewing at a Detroit museum. Franklin, who died on Aug. 16, will be laid to rest on Friday.

### Lobster festival 'sea goddess' dethroned over online photos

**ROCKLAND, Maine (AP)**—The 2018 Maine Lobster Festival Sea Goddess has been dethroned less than 24 hours after she was crowned because of what organizers described as photos of "inappropriate behavior" on her social media page. Eighteen-year-old Taylor Hamlin was crowned Sea Goddess at the 71-year-old festival Wednesday. On Thursday, she posted on Facebook she lost the title after community members emailed photos of her. The Portland Press Herald reports one showed Hamlin holding a joint. Another showed her holding a device for vaping. Hamlin said she was told to sign a document saying she could no longer fulfill her duties. Organizers said the photos "were not in keeping with the behavior and image of the Maine Sea Goddess" and Taylor decided to resign. Crown Princess Erin Dugan will assume sea goddess duties.

## Man won't budge on having surgery to quiet his snoring

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I are happily married, but have one serious problem. Our sleeping habits are incompatible. I am an extremely light sleeper; he is a horrendous snorer.

He sees a snoring specialist and tried several medical treatments, none of which worked. The only solution is a minor surgical procedure. He doesn't want to have the surgery. He insists he "sleeps fine," and says I'm the one with the problem.

I have tried earplugs, white noise machines, sleep medications and more, but I cannot get a decent sleep with the obnoxious snoring. He stays up much later than I do, and I enjoy sleeping in our master bedroom until he comes to bed. I usually get driven out of the room by the noise.

We agree we don't want to sleep in separate rooms and lose the intimacy, but it's the only option for me to sleep well. Neither of us wants to give up the master bedroom because it's the only one with an attached bathroom.

Am I wrong for asking him to have surgery so we can share a bed? And if he won't, who should get the master bedroom?

SLEEPLESS IN LOUISIANA

**DEAR SLEEPLESS:** Let's be honest. By now your husband knows full well he doesn't "sleep fine." The reason for his reluctance is fear of the surgery. It wasn't wrong of you to ask, and out of consideration for you and the intimacy in

your marriage he shouldn't have refused.

However, because he insists on coming into the master bedroom, which he knows wakes you, for the sake of your health, take the other bedroom. Understand, the "intimacy bed" does not always have to be the "sleeping bed." Good sleep quality is necessary for us to function properly.

**DEAR ABBY:** I have five grown children and three grandchildren. They have always come first, especially my grandchildren. When I began the relationship with my husband, I told him how important both were to me and that, no matter what, my grandchildren always came first. He agreed and said he felt the same way.

Now, two years into our marriage, my daughter and grandchildren want to come live with us for nine months while her husband is deployed. My husband is freaking out and keeps complaining every day even though they aren't even here yet. He has pushed me to my breaking point, and I am not sure what to do. I would never tell him that or act that way toward his children or grandchildren. I'm now considering divorce. What should I do?

FAMILY FIRST IN THE SOUTH

**DEAR FAMILY FIRST:** I can't help but wonder how you would REALLY feel if the shoe was on the other foot.

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*



**Would you be as accommodating as you expect him to be, or would you be panicking, too?**

**Remind your husband that this is what he agreed to before your marriage, and point out that this isn't forever. It will be for only nine months. Tell him it will be an opportunity for him to get to know the grandkids and vice versa. Who knows? He might even enjoy it.**

**If he's still unhappy after a reasonable period of time after they arrive, then it may be time to discuss separating. But don't jump the gun.**

*To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.*



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



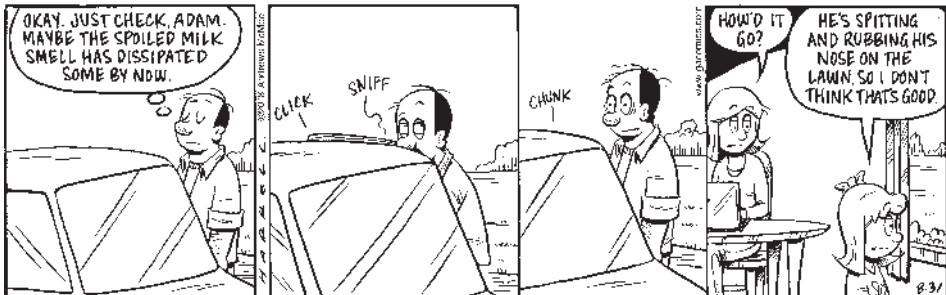
## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

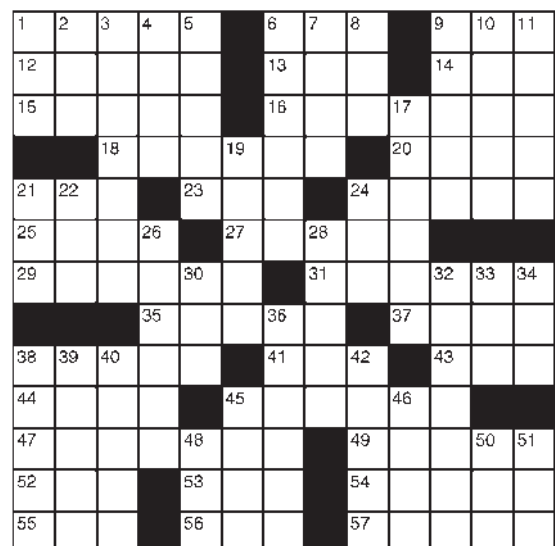
1 Tent  
6 Boob tubes  
9 Airport screening  
12 Up and about  
13 Dawn goddess  
14 Attila, notably  
15 Violas' cousins  
16 Rapidly  
18 Sheathe  
20 Faction  
21 Fluffy scarf  
23 Shock partner  
24 Ancient harps  
25 Cold War initials  
27 Top story  
29 Falling star  
31 Odorless gas  
35 Beckett's no-show  
37 And others (Lat.)  
38 Salk's conquest

**DOWN**

41 Scepter  
43 Third degree?  
44 "Don't rub —!"  
45 Congenital  
47 On the run  
49 Sycophant  
52 Museum-funding org.  
53 In favor of  
54 Host  
55 Tolkien ogre  
56 Parched  
57 Leaks slowly  
1 Pouch  
2 Mao — -tung  
3 Minimally  
4 Pottery oven  
5 Writer Jong  
6 Service for a social  
7 Cast a ballot  
8 Snake's warning  
9 "A League of — Own"  
10 Soft leather  
11 Peaks of Peru  
17 Soul  
19 Tony or Oscar  
21 Vagrant  
22 Sugar suffix  
24 Set afire  
26 Capital of Sas-katch-ewan  
28 Rockies range  
30 Odometer start  
32 Serene  
33 "Unh-unh"  
34 Days of yore  
36 Cantankerous  
38 Steinway product  
39 Playful sea critter  
40 Pale purple  
42 Appointments  
45 Mr. Stravinsky  
46 Heavy reading?  
48 "Mayberry —"  
50 Bank-book abbr.  
51 Thumbs-up

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 8-31**



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Sara Ramirez, 43; Chris Tucker, 47; Zack Ward, 48; Richard Gere, 69.

**Happy Birthday:** Live, learn and participate. This is a year of progress. The more you can fit in, the better. Look at your current situation and remember the past as you move forward and make the most of what you have. Build a solid foundation and live up to your expectations. Taking the initiative and making things happen will lead to success. Your numbers are 5, 17, 24, 26, 34, 43, 45.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Make changes for the right reason. Upsetting someone unnecessarily won't end up working in your favor. Kindness, affection and understanding will encourage conversations that can help mend any fallout you have with a loved one. Do your best to make partnerships work. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Do more and say less. Your actions will make a difference, but complaining won't. Situations that have the potential to get blown out of proportion should be avoided. Focus on what's doable, and you will bring about positive change. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** It is best for you to work quietly behind the scenes to avoid interference. Someone who doesn't want to see you excel will meddle in your affairs if you are too open and trusting. Work hard and keep your thoughts to yourself. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** What you do for others will be appreciated. Accepting others with open arms and a big heart will give you a sense of satisfaction and

encourage you to participate more in events that are geared toward improving the community you live in. \*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Don't get worked up over what others do. Live life your way and allow those around you the same privilege. Don't overreact or hang out with people who entice you to do things you shouldn't. Focus on looking and being your best. \*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Set high expectations and put your plans into motion. What you do will make a difference to you and to those around you. Your determination and drive will separate you from anyone trying to stand in your way or compete with you. \*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Use finesse and intelligence when dealing with domestic or joint financial matters. Altering bad habits will help you avoid getting into a dispute with someone who isn't happy with your spending habits or the way you handle responsibilities. \*\*\*

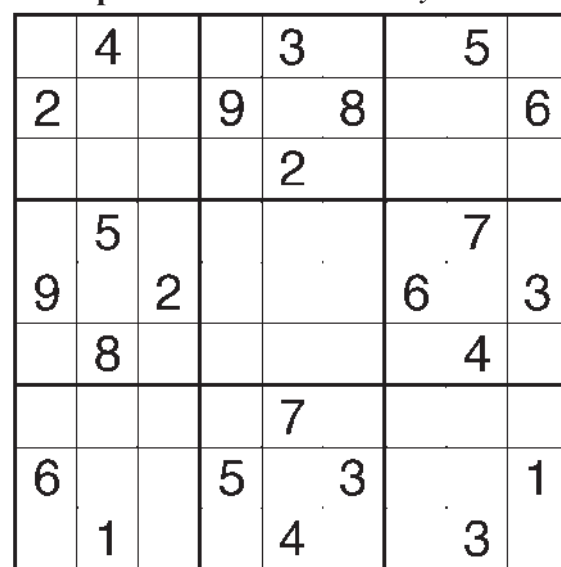
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Change begins within. Question your motives, and make choices that will encourage you to strive for perfection in all you do. Use your imagination, and direct your energy into positive and progressive pursuits. Set high standards and practice moderation. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Live and learn. Look over your personal finances and budget carefully if you plan to travel or socialize. Don't feel the need to pay for others. Your generosity won't buy love, but showing affection and displaying charm will. \*\*\*

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/31

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 7 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 7 |
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 4 |
| 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| 4 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 8 | 5 |
| 2 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 1 |

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

IT'S TIME TO REFURBISH

Solution: 8 letters

R R R R O O F F H S I L O P O O L  
E E E Y S S O L G W I N D O W  
M N P D U S T I N G O R T T A  
I O A A V E E Z I N A G R O L  
R V I V P D L E M W G L A U L  
P A R A A D T A E N N A N C P  
D T T R R R N R N H I Z S H A  
L E G R I T N A D W T E F U P  
I P C L E A N I S A A L O P E  
U N E O N I A T S S O O R A R  
B H S E R F R I A H C O M B L  
O T U T P A I N T E X T U R E  
X I O U A S T O R A G E L I D  
E M H F I L L E R E N E W C O  
S E L I T F L O O R O O M K M

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8/31

Boxes, Brick, Build, Chair, Clean, Coating, Decorate, Drawer, Dusting, Filler, Floor, Fresh, Glaze, Glossy, Grit, Hotel, House, Install, Mend, Model, Neat, Organize, Paint, Polish, Pool, Primer, Renew, Renovate, Repair, Roof, Room, Sandpaper, Stain, Storage, Tape, Texture, Tiles, Time, Tool, Touch Up, Transform, Upgrade, Varnish, Wallpaper, Wash, Window

Yesterday's Answer: Needles

Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition is back by popular demand! Purchase online at www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.



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# WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

# HIBUTE

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## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Opening Date: Tuesday, August 28, 2018**  
**Closing Date: Until Filled**

**RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITY OFFERED:**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is a government utility providing power, water, and wastewater services in the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI), a U.S. commonwealth in the western Pacific. The incumbent of this position is under the overall supervision of the Division Manager or his/her designee. Provides direction to Trades Assistants to include assigning and monitoring tasks and providing direction. Performs journey level operations, installations and/or repairs in service area assigned. Inspects equipment and determines if any repairs are needed. Performs preventative maintenance in service area assigned. Maintains level of supplies and equipment. Positions assigned to Wastewater are also responsible for: Cleaning, maintaining, repairing and painting submersible pumps; Lifting, inspecting and replacing submersible pumps; Rewinding motors for emergency purposes; Fabricating, welding and bypassing pumps and pipes to ensure operation; Troubleshooting treatment plant problems; Performing maintenance and repairs on generators; Operating Vector trucks; Monitoring and performing preventive maintenance on sewer lines, manholes and lift stations; Taking treatment plant readings and performing adjustments; Troubleshooting and maintaining control panels; Running sludge by oiling and cleaning the filter press. Performs other duties of a similar nature or level. This is a Direct Responsible Charge (DRC Operator) position required by Stipulated Order Number One of the United States of America vs. the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**LOCATION** : **Wastewater Division, SAIPAN**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA  
**SALARY** : Starting: \$45,326.00 per annum, Exempt  
 (Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience)  
**POSITIONS** : One (1)  
**CONTRACT** : **Two (2) years, Subject to renewal**

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

**Licensing Requirement:** Must have a Wastewater Treatment Level 2 Certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or from an authorized alternative (such as from the NMI Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ)). Also required is a CNMI Driver's License or one from another U.S. jurisdiction. **Education:** High School Diploma, or General Education Diploma or Adult School Diploma through a U.S. state or territory Adult Basic Education program, "and" four (4) years of increasingly responsible experience related to the area assigned. **Knowledge of:** Principles and procedures of service area assigned; Inspection and troubleshooting principles; Preventative maintenance principles; Inventory control principles; Basic mathematics. **Skill in:** Preparing cost and materials estimates; Performing preventative maintenance; Performing journey level maintenance and installations in service area; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Communication, interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction. Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER



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Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4282 Fax (670) 235-5131



## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

**Opening Date: Tuesday, August 28, 2018**  
**Closing Date: Until Filled**

**Engineer**  
**(Re-announcement)**

**Duties:** Under the direct supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her designee. Position is assigned to both routine and simple water and sewer facilities and projects. Duties and responsibilities include: Perform field measurements for distance, elevation, flows, pressures and other elements related to water and sewer system designs, including configuration of water/sewer facilities, utilizing surveying equipment and GIS system; Design size and length of water mains, capacity (pumping rate and head) of booster stations, size, slope, and distance of sewer gravity mains and force mains, size, pumping capacity, and liquid level control of Lift stations; Design drawings to portray facilities to be constructed based on completed design and specification preparation for water systems and water sources, transmission and distribution pipelines and storage tank, including wastewater systems and facilities sewer lines, sewer pumping stations and treatment plants. Writes reports for engineering feasibility analysis, evaluations, such as water and wastewater flow, well production, water loss, electrical consumption, system hydraulics. Prepare scopes of work for a variety of A&E consultant services related to existing and proposed water and sewer systems; Analysis of water system operation performance by pressure zone; Operations support such as review of operating mode and system configuration, water leaks detection, repairs and recovery of water loss. Ensure proper installation and monitoring of pilot control system using supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA); Effects repairs to multiple emergency power generators for the wastewater lift stations; Responsible for overseeing the engineering aspect of the water and wastewater system operations modifications, maintenance and repairs; and Perform other related engineering duties as assigned.

**LOCATION(S)** : **Water & Wastewater Engineering Division, Saipan**, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.

**SALARY** : \$40,084.00 to \$51,853.00 per annum, Exempt  
(Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience)

**CONTRACT** : Two (2) years, subject to renewal

**POSITION(S)** : One (1)

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil or Environmental Engineering and four years of related engineering experience. Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering is also acceptable if candidate has four years of experience engineering water and/or wastewater systems. **Knowledge of:** Engineering principles and practices; mathematical, pumping and hydraulics, and wastewater conveyance and treatment concepts; project management principles; construction techniques; safe work practices; applicable Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations. **Skill in:** Interpreting and applying Federal, State, and/or Local laws, rules, and regulations; reading, understanding, and preparing drawings for construction contracts; preparing a variety of technical reports and/or documentation; presenting technical information to management, public groups, and other related individuals; interpreting and preparing specifications; estimating construction costs; conducting studies. Able to use computers and related software applications; communicate, interact with co-workers, supervisor, contractors, representatives of other agencies and departments, and the general public to exchange or convey information and to receive work direction; use AutoCAD to prepare plans for utility projects and contracts is a plus. Registration as an Engineer-In-Training in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is preferred but not required. Applicants licensed as a Professional Engineer in the CNMI, Guam, or any State of the United States is encouraged to apply. Applicants may be subject to pre-employment testing.

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# Serena versus Venus; Murray eliminated

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Get ready for the latest Grand Slam installment of Williams vs. Williams. One big difference this time: The superstar siblings will be meeting in the third round at the U.S. Open, their earliest showdown at a major tournament in 20 years.

Serena Williams set up the highly anticipated matchup at Flushing Meadows by hitting 13 aces and overwhelming 101st-ranked Carina Witthoeft of Germany 6-2, 6-2 in a little more than an hour in Arthur Ashe Stadium on Wednesday night. Hours earlier, across the way at Louis Armstrong Stadium, Venus Williams did her part with another straight-set victory, eliminating 40th-ranked Camila Giorgi of Italy 6-4, 7-5.

“Unfortunately and fortunately, we have to play each other. We make each other better. We bring out the best when we play each other. It’s what we do,” Serena said. “I think we’re used to it now.”

When they play Friday, it will be their 30th tour-level encounter — plus, of course, all those times when they traded shots from across the net as kids in California, then on practice courts all around the world. It’s also soonest the sisters have played each other at any Grand Slam since their very first tour match, all the way back at the 1998 Australian Open. Venus won that one. But since then, it’s been the younger Serena who’s grown dominant.

The reason this match comes so early is that their rankings are not what they’ve been in the past. Serena is No. 26, playing in only the seventh tournament since she was off the tour for more than a year while having a baby. Even though the U.S. Tennis Asso-



AP  
Venus Williams returns a shot to Camila Giorgi of Italy during the second round of the U.S. Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, Aug. 29, 2018, in New York.

ciation bumped her seeding up to reflect her past success, it still placed her at No. 17. Venus, meanwhile is No. 16.

“It’s so young in the tournament,” Serena said. “We would have rather met later.”

She leads the series 17-12, including 10-5 at majors.

Both have been ranked No. 1. They have won a combined 30 Grand Slam singles trophies, 23 by Serena. They own eight U.S. Open singles championships, six by Serena.

They’ve played each other

in the finals of all four Slams, including at the U.S. Open in 2001 (when Venus won) and 2002 (when Serena did).

“It’s incredible what they’ve done. I mean, amazing really. Obviously there’s been other siblings that have had fantastic careers in tennis, but none anywhere close to what they’ve managed to achieve,” said three-time major champion Andy Murray, whose first major since hip surgery ended

with a four-set loss to No. 31 Fernando Verdasco. “I’d be surprised if anything like that ever happens again.”

Defending champion Rafael Nadal followed Serena into Ashe and wasn’t really troubled at all, other than when he received a warning for letting the 25-second serve clock expire—something he figured was really his opponent’s fault. Either way, Nadal shrugged off that third-set dis-

traction and finished off a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Canada’s Vasek Pospisil.

Two other past men’s champions won—Juan Martin del Potro, who beat Dennis Kudla of the U.S., and Stan Wawrinka—as did 2017 runner-up Kevin Anderson, and No. 11 seed John Isner.

Two-time major champion Garbine Muguruza built a big lead but gave it away and was stunned 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 by 202nd-ranked Czech qualifier Karolina Muchova in a match that ended

after 1 a.m. on as Wednesday turned to Thursday.

Seeded women who advanced earlier on another day with the temperature topping 95 degrees (33 Celsius) included No. 7 Elina Svitolina, No. 8 Karolina Pliskova, No. 15 Elise Mertens, No. 19 Anastasija Sevastova and No. 23 Barbora Strycova, all in straight sets.

During her post-victory news conference, which came long before Serena set foot on court against Witthoeft, Venus clearly had little interest in entertaining questions about the possible all-in-the-family match.

“It’s early in the tournament, so both of us are going to be looking forward to continuing to play better,” Venus said. “Obviously, it’s definitely a tough draw.”

Later, when a reporter tried to steer the conversation back to Williams vs. Williams, Venus offered this admonishment about the topic: “You’re beating it up now.”

She was ever-so-slightly more forthcoming during her on-court interview, joking, “The last time we played, at the Australian, it was two against one,” a reference to the fact that Serena was pregnant when she beat Venus in the 2017 Australian Open final.

“At least this time,” Venus told the crowd, “it’ll be fair.”

Serena looked much more impressive Wednesday than her sister did, but the levels of competition were also different.

Of the 82 points that went Venus’ way, only 13 came via her own winners. Giorgi had 29 winners, but also 41 unforced errors and 28 forced errors.

Serena, meanwhile, put together a 30-10 edge in winners, then declared her serve much better than it’s been of late.

**SEATTLE (AP)**—All Clint Dempsey ever wanted to do was score goals and go fishing.

He’ll have plenty of time to do the latter after deciding his goal-scoring days are over.

In true Dempsey fashion, he’s stepping away from soccer on his own terms, with minimal fanfare on his own part but amid a swell of appreciation for what he’s meant to the American game.

“It’s a little bit of a sad day because we won’t get to see him play, but at the same time you can also use this day as a celebration for some of the great things he has accomplished in his career,” Seattle Sounders coach Brian Schmetzer said.

Dempsey announced Wednesday that he’s retiring at age 35 after 15 years of playing professionally. He was

## US soccer legend Dempsey retires

mostly a sub with the Sounders this summer, and that, combined with age and injury, prompted him to decide now was the time to walk away even with two months left in the MLS regular season.

He didn’t show at his own farewell, only issuing a statement through the team, also in true Dempsey fashion. Sounders owner Adrian Hanauer said there had been talks over the past few weeks about Dempsey’s future and the decision was finalized in the past couple of days.

“After a lot of thought, my family and I have decided that this is the right time for me to step away from the game,” Dempsey said. “I’d like to thank all of the teammates,

coaches and support staff that I’ve worked with throughout my career. It has always been my dream to make it as a pro. I’m grateful to have been on this ride. I would like to thank all of the fans who have supported me throughout my career with the New England Revolution, Fulham, Tottenham, Seattle Sounders and the U.S. men’s national team.

“Y’all have always made me feel at home, and it is something that I will always remember.”

Dempsey is tied with Landon Donovan as the greatest U.S. goal scorer, with 57 international goals in 141 appearances, and both their names come up in the discus-



sion about the best U.S. players of all-time. He captained the U.S. in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil when the Americans reached the knockout stage before losing to Belgium in the round of 16. He’s the only American to score in three different World Cups.

But aside from his international success with the U.S., his most important contribution was helping to dispel a stereotype about American players in the Premier League. Dempsey moved from the New England Revolution to Fulham in 2007 and showed Americans weren’t just “try-hard” players; they also have skill.

He became the first American to score a hat trick in the

Premier League. He played in a Europa League final, and his chipped goal against Juventus while playing for Fulham is regarded as arguably the best of his career.

“Clint changed those perspectives that it’s not just a hard-working guy that is going to go grind for it, that he actually could do something special with skill,” former U.S. goalkeeper Kasey Keller said. “Some of the goals that Clint scored for Fulham were truly world class.”

Dempsey’s Premier League career ended with Tottenham and he returned to MLS in 2013 with the Sounders. It was a major moment for MLS—an American player who had success in England making the

decision to return to the league with good years still remaining in his career.

Dempsey scored 57 goals in all competitions in his Seattle career. He helped lead the Sounders to a U.S. Open Cup title, a Supporters’ Shield and an appearance in a second straight MLS Cup final a season ago.

He missed the second half of the 2016 season with a heart condition that put his career in jeopardy and kept him out of Seattle’s championship run. He returned the next season after being cleared by doctors and was the MLS Comeback Player of the Year when he again became the leading scorer for the Sounders and reclaimed a place on the U.S. national team.

The Americans fell short in World Cup qualifying, ending Dempsey’s bid to play in a fourth World Cup.



# Price check for Red Sox; Pujols done for season



## BOSTON

(AP)—Mookie Betts homered early and had a two-run double in Boston's 11-run seventh inning and the Red Sox rallied to beat Miami Marlins, 14-6, after pitcher David Price was knocked out with a bruised left wrist.

The 33-year-old lefty exited in the fourth after being struck by a line drive off the bat of Austin Dean on the final play of the previous inning.

With the Red Sox trailing 5-3, Blake Swihart had a pinch-hit RBI single and Jackie Bradley Jr. tied it with a double before Betts hit his go-ahead shot into the right-center gap off Adam Conley (3-4). Brock Holt followed with a pinch-hit triple and scored on Xander Bogaerts' single.

Eduardo Nunez and Ian Kinsler had RBI singles before Swihart doubled home his second run of the inning and scored on Bradley's single. By the time it was over, Boston had its biggest inning of the season.

Betts and Eduardo Nunez each hit a solo homer for the Red Sox, who won for the 22nd time in their last 26 interleague games. They increased their AL East lead to 7 1/2 games over the New York Yankees.

In Los Angeles, the Angles Albert Pujols is likely to miss the rest of his 18th major league season after undergoing surgery on his left knee. Pujols ranks sixth with 633 career homers after passing Ken Griffey Jr. last month. The Angels' slugger is seventh with 1,982 RBIs, just behind Lou Gehrig (1,995) and Barry Bonds (1,996), and close to becoming only the fifth member of the 2,000-RBI club.

## Brewers 13, Red 12

In Cincinnati, Christian Yelich led Milwaukee's big comeback by hitting for the cycle, and Jesus Aguilar homered in the 10th inning, powering the Brewers to a victory over the Reds.

Aguilar connected off Raisel Iglesias (2-3) for Milwaukee's fourth homer of the game, halting the Brewers' month-long slide. Milwaukee has dropped 11 of 20 and slipped into third place in the NL Central, five games behind the Cubs.

## White Sox 4, Yankees 1

In New York, Ryan LaMarre homered and drove in a career-best four runs, Reynaldo Lopez stifled the Yankees again despite diminished velocity and Chicago beat New York.

LaMarre hit a pair of run-scoring doubles off starter CC Sabathia (7-5), then lifted a leadoff shot against Chad Green in the seventh. The 29-year-old had one previous homer this season and one all of last season between Triple-A and the majors.

## Dodgers 3, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Alex Wood pitched seven scoreless innings and Los Angeles hit three solo homers to beat Texas and stretching its winning streak to five games.

Cody Bellinger and Manny Machado hit first-pitch homers off Mike Minor (10-7). Yasmani Grandal also went deep for the defending National League champion Dodgers.

Wood (8-6) limited the Rangers to four singles, throwing 67 of 98 pitches for strikes with five strikeouts and two walks.

## Mets 10, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Todd Frazier hit a



grand slam and drove in a season-high five runs to lead New York past Chicago, avenging a tough loss earlier in the day.

Frazier gave New York a 4-0 lead in the first inning with his drive against Alec Mills (0-1) and added an RBI single in a two-run ninth.

## Astros 5, Athletics 4

In Houston, Tyler White homered with one out in the ninth inning to lift Houston past Oakland.

White, who also homered Monday, sent a pitch from Jeurys Familia (4-1) to the seats in left field. The Astros won two of three games in the series to move 2 1/2 games ahead of Oakland atop the AL West.

## Phillies 8, Nationals 6

In Philadelphia, Carlos Santana hit a grand slam and Jose Bautista had the go-ahead RBI single in the seventh inning in Philadelphia's victory over Washington.

Roman Quinn tripled and had three hits to help Philadelphia avoid a three-game sweep.

Trea Turner, Anthony Ren-

don and Juan Soto homered for the Nationals.

Bautista, acquired from the New York Mets a day earlier, made a winner of Seranthony Dominguez (2-5) when his two-out, opposite-field single off Jimmy Cordero (1-1) scored Cesar Hernandez to snap a 6-all tie.

## Twins 4, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Robbie Grossman had a two-out, two-run single off struggling Cleveland closer Cody Allen in the seventh inning to lift Minnesota.

Down 3-2, the Twins scored twice in the seventh off Allen (4-6), the Indians' career saves leader who has not been sharp of late and could lose his job to Brad Hand.

## Royals 9, Tigers 2

In Kansas City, Adalberto Mondesi hit a two-run homer and had four RBIs, Danny Duffy allowed two hits over six innings and Kansas City routed Detroit to sweep the two-game series.

Duffy (8-11) gave up both

hits and his only run in the first inning, when Miki Mahtook drove in Jose Iglesias with a two-out single.

## Orioles 10, Blue Jays 5

In Baltimore, Adam Jones hit his second career grand slam, Trey Mancini had a solo shot and Baltimore beat Toronto to complete its first three-game sweep of the season.

The Orioles overcame a four-run deficit and three Toronto homers to become the last team in the majors to reach 40 wins.

## Padres 8, Mariners 3

In San Diego, Hunter Renfroe homered and drove in four runs, Manuel Margot had a homer among his three hits and prized rookie Luis Urias had his first three hits for San Diego, helping the Padres beat Seattle for a two-game sweep.

The offensive outburst made a winner of rookie left-hander Joey Lucchesi (7-7), who stayed in the game after needing a few minutes to recover from Ryon Healy's comebacker that glanced off

AP  
In this Monday, June 4, 2018 file photo, Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols hits an RBI single to score Mike Trout against the Kansas City Royals during the sixth inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif. Pujols is likely to miss the rest of the season after undergoing surgery on his left knee.

his glove and then his groin.

## Pirates 2, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Trevor Williams pitched six strong innings, Starling Marte had an RBI single in the sixth inning, and Pittsburgh beat St. Louis.

Williams (11-9) gave up three hits and struck out a career-high eight. He has allowed just four earned runs over his last eight starts and improved to 5-2 with 0.75 ERA during that stretch.

## Rays 8, Braves 5

In Atlanta, C.J. Cron homered and had four hits, Tommy Pham added a two-run shot and Tampa Bay beat Atlanta in a game delayed twice by rain.

Tampa Bay has won nine of 10 and outscored opponents 54-26 over that span.

The Braves have dropped three of five but still lead the NL East by 3 1/2 games.

## Diamondbacks 3, Giants 1

In San Francisco, Steven Souza Jr. homered leading off the third to end Arizona's 25-inning scoreless drought, then hit an RBI double the next inning and backed Zack Godley with a defensive gem in right field that helped the Diamondbacks beat San Francisco.

Godley (14-7) threw 7 2/3 innings of two-hit ball and increased his career best for wins.

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# All set for tomorrow's Governor's Tourism Cup



All is set for the 3rd Annual Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament that will be held this Saturday on the east course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

The Office of the Governor and the Marianas Visitors Authority are co-hosting the tournament that will have a teetime at 7:30am.

"Golfers have until 5pm today to sign up for the tournament," tournament director James Nelson said. "Interested golfers can sign up at the Mar-

ianas Visitors Authority or at the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort. We expect great weather as Typhoon Jebi passes over the Northern Mariana Islands."

This year's major sponsors are DFS T-Galleria, the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Hyatt Regency Saipan, IT&E, J.C. Tenorio Enterprises and United Airlines, donating \$3,000 or more in cash and prizes. Classic sponsors Bank of Guam, IP&E, Mar Pac, Marianas Variety, and Power 99 have all made generous contributions of \$2,000 or more in

cash, prizes and services.

For hole-in-one prizes, Triple J Motors has put up a 2018 Mazda 3i Sport Plus, Pacifica Insurance has \$5,000 up for grabs, and Joeten Motors will have a 2018 Nissan Rogue Sport.

Classic contributors with donations of \$1,000 include First Hawaiian Bank, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Island Training Solutions, Bank of Saipan, and McDonald's of Saipan.

Other donors to the tournament include the Hotel Association of the Northern

Mariana Islands, Micronesian Brokers, Joeten Super Store, Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, The Water Company, Kensington Hotel, Triple J Truckload Store, AON Insurance, Roil Soil, and the Tournament of Champions.

"As with every tournament, golfers look forward to the famous hot dog stands. This feature is made possible through the generous donation of fresh baked buns from Herman's Modern Bakery and Nathan's Hot Dogs by Triple J 5-Star Wholesale and. Herman's Modern Bakery and Triple J 5-Star Wholesale also donated the morning snacks for golfers to enjoy," MTEC chair Vicky Benavente said.

MTEC was formed in 2002 to heighten the community's awareness of the importance of the islands' tourism industry.

This year's entry fee is \$100 and includes cart and green fees, morning snacks, free flowing on-course refreshments and awards banquet. Participants can also look forward to the nearest to the pin and longest drive competitions. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DFS president Marian Aldan-Pierce, fourth left, presents DFS Saipan/T Galleria's donation for the 3rd Annual Governor's Tourism Cup Golf Tournament to MTEC chair Vicky Benavente. Also in the photo are, from left, T Galleria's Jomari Pico, Marianas Visitors Authority's Martin Duenas, and tournament director James Nelson.



J.C. Tenorio Enterprises manager Darlene Macaranas, center, hands over the \$1,500 and a load of prizes to James Nelson, tournament director for the 3rd Annual Governor's Tourism Cup. Also in the photo are, from left, are Joeten's Dollu Munda and JJ Tenorio, and Marianas Visitors Authority's Ray Villagomez. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## 6JMS Mafia clinches Masters crown

The 6JMS Mafia bagged the Masters title in the 2018 Saipan Electronic Darts Association League Bud Light Cup after dominating 6JMS Pythons in the finals, 9-3, last Wednesday.

The championship game was still tied after six games, 3-3, before the 6JMS Mafia swept the last six matches to bag the divi-

sion championship.

In other results, 6JMS Dart Vaders, Johnny's Werpa, Amari's Built-It, and Amari's Weltzside advanced to the semifinals of the C Division. Amari's Weltzside won over Amari's G4, 8-5; 6JMS Dart Vaders routed the 6JMS Bulldogs, 8-1; Amari's Built-It slipped past Rivers



Shot, 8-7; and Johnny's Werpa outclassed Oleai Re-Darts, 8-5.

The C Division Final Four matches will be played on Sept. 5 with the 6JMS Dart Vaders taking on Johnny's Werpa and Amari's Built-It battling Amari's Weltzside. The finals will take place on Sept. 12. (Rose-lynn B. Monroy)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

6JMS Mafia players pose for a photo after ruling the Masters division of the 2018 Saipan Electronic Darts Association League Bud Light Cup.

## BLUE

From Page 32

East Asian Football Federation-sanctioned event in 2017. Michiteru Mita will coach the squad, which has three-time national team player Jonathan Takano as captain. Completing the Blue Ayuyus' roster are vice captain Enrico Del Rosario, siblings Anthony and Joel Fruit, Bo Barry, Sunjoon Tenorio, Jehn Joyner, Hark Galario, Thaipi Austria, Sebastian Manabat, John Bucayo, Christopher Aninzo, John Michale Rojas, Jonathan Capayas, Nick Swaim, Dai Podziewski, Ryu Tanzawa, and Ryan Relucio. Mita and company are on their way to Mongolia after making stop in South Korea for the team's last training camp before their see action in the EAFF competition.

Guam also had a training camp in South Korea and did the same in California where they played against San Diego State University's men's soccer team and LA Galaxy.

Former Australian pro player Karl Dodd calls the shot for Matao. Guam's official roster were unavailable at the Guam Football Association's website, but 15 players were called for its training camp in California. They were A.J. DeLa Garza, Marlon Evans, Dallas Jaye, Isaiah Lagutang, Alexander Lee, Justin Lee, Nathaniel Lee, Shane Malcolm, John Matkin, Jacob McDonald, Edward Na, Dylan Naputi, Shawn Nicklaw, Travis Nicklaw, and Jared Pangindian.

Mita, in an earlier interview with *Saipan Tribune* before they left for South Korea, said they are counting on the Blue Ayuyus' collective effort on offense and defense to produce positive results in their campaign in the EAFF tournament. The Northern Mariana Islands Football Association technical director added they have limited information about their opponents, so they have to stick with their game plan and then make the adjustment when situations

call for it.

After their opening game against Guam, the Blue Ayuyus will take on Mongolia on Sept. 4 at 2pm, while their match over Macau is set for Sept. 5 at 1pm.

Meanwhile, in the women's division, the CNMI will have its first game on Sept. 3 against Mongolia at 5pm at the Mongolian National Stadium. Then two days later, the Commonwealth's female strikers will duel Macau at 2pm, while their showdown against Guam is slated for Sept. 7, also at 2pm.

Olympian Luam Khen Koo is the team's head coach, while the squad's roster has captain Janelle Chojnacki, Emalyn Aniana, Guinevere Borja, Sharmaine Francisco, Jerlyn and Jeralyn Castillo, Gillian Villagomez, Gabrielle Race, Gianna Griffin, Emiliana King, Britany Wally, Carla Ballesteros, Krizel Tuazon, Therize Millare, Katrina Costales, Grace Choi, Pauyllyn Joyce, and Sue Ann Huevos.

## MPU

From Page 32

take on Shimizunishi. Each match will be played in two 15-minute halves with a five-minute break and the team with the best record after the round-robin play will rule the tournament.

MP United last won the competition in April 2017 during the Pacific Ocean Cup 7, easing past Pacific Ocean Cup 5 champion Paire in the finals, 4-0. MP United's two other title wins in the tourna-

ment held twice a year were in 2013 (Pacific Ocean Cup 2) and 2014 (Pacific Ocean Cup 4). In Pacific Ocean Cup 2, MP United outgunned Vivid Blue in a shootout in the finals, 3-1, while in Pacific Ocean Cup 4, the former was pitted against the same team and this time cruised to a 3-0 triumph.

Nagaoka SSS won the inaugural tournament, which MP United and Vivid Blue alternately host as part of their football development and cultural exchange programs.

over Agape 2 to recover from its loss to GCA 2 last Tuesday. Agape 1 also aimed to break into the win column after bowing to SDA.

Meanwhile, Agape 1 and GCA 1 will try to keep their unbeaten records when they take on separate opponents on Tuesday, Sept. 4. The Torchbearers will square off against the winless SCS at Agape's court in Middle Road, which will also host the GCA 1 versus Agape 2 tiff at 4:30pm. Over at the SDA turf, the host squad will go for win No. 2 when it collides with MCS.

The Knights will have back-to-back games, as they return to their court on Wednesday, Sept. 5, to face Agape 1. Also slated for Wednesday is the game between host SIS and GCA 2. To complete the Week 2 schedule, GCA 1 will host SDA on Sept. 6, and SIS and GCA 2 will do the same in their matches against Agape 2 and SCS, respectively.

## AGAPE 1

From Page 32

Agape 1 held the solo lead in the eight-team field for just a day, as GCA 1 joined the Torchbearers on top yesterday following a victory over GCA 2. GCA 1, which is made up of the core of the team that defeated Mt. Carmel School in the finals last season, gained win No. 2 early after sweeping GCA 2, 25-17, 25-9. GCA 1 and 2 played the third set of yesterday's game at the Eagles court in Navy Hill, but scores were not officially recorded.

In other results yesterday, SIS beat Saipan Community to bounce back from its loss to Agape 1 during the league's opening day.

One more match was scheduled yesterday, but results of Mt. Carmel School's duel against Agape 2 at the Knights court in Chalan Kanoa were unavailable at press time. MCS was gunning for a win

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### East Division

|           | W  | L  | Pct  | GB  |
|-----------|----|----|------|-----|
| Boston    | 92 | 42 | .687 | —   |
| New York  | 84 | 49 | .632 | 7½  |
| Tampa Bay | 71 | 62 | .534 | 20½ |
| Toronto   | 60 | 73 | .451 | 31½ |
| Baltimore | 40 | 94 | .299 | 52  |

##### Central Division

|             |    |    |      |     |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Cleveland   | 75 | 57 | .568 | —   |
| Minnesota   | 62 | 70 | .470 | 13  |
| Chicago     | 53 | 80 | .398 | 22½ |
| Detroit     | 53 | 80 | .398 | 22½ |
| Kansas City | 42 | 91 | .316 | 33½ |

##### West Division

|             |    |    |      |     |
|-------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Houston     | 82 | 51 | .617 | —   |
| Oakland     | 80 | 54 | .597 | 2½  |
| Seattle     | 74 | 59 | .556 | 8   |
| Los Angeles | 64 | 69 | .481 | 18  |
| Texas       | 58 | 76 | .433 | 24½ |

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### East Division

|              |    |    |      |     |
|--------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Atlanta      | 74 | 58 | .561 | —   |
| Philadelphia | 71 | 62 | .534 | 3½  |
| Washington   | 67 | 67 | .500 | 8   |
| New York     | 59 | 74 | .444 | 15½ |
| Miami        | 53 | 81 | .396 | 22  |

##### Central Division

|            |    |    |      |     |
|------------|----|----|------|-----|
| Chicago    | 78 | 54 | .591 | —   |
| St. Louis  | 74 | 59 | .556 | 4½  |
| Milwaukee  | 74 | 60 | .552 | 5   |
| Pittsburgh | 65 | 68 | .489 | 13½ |
| Cincinnati | 57 | 76 | .429 | 21½ |

##### West Division

|               |    |    |      |    |
|---------------|----|----|------|----|
| Arizona       | 73 | 60 | .549 | —  |
| Colorado      | 72 | 60 | .545 | ½  |
| Los Angeles   | 72 | 61 | .541 | 1  |
| San Francisco | 67 | 68 | .496 | 7  |
| San Diego     | 52 | 83 | .385 | 22 |

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# IT&E Off-Road Duathlon & Trail Run Winners

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



From left, Emily Northrop, Heather Taylor, and Ayano Braxton pose for a photo after receiving their prizes in the women's division of the IT&E Off-Road Duathlon & Trail Run held last Saturday at the Last Command Post.



12K trail run finisher Floro Derexes, right, joins men's duathlon runner-up Butch Sublemente, left, and third placer Mark Isip for a photo.



Women's 12K run winner Sakiko Eda, left, joins runner-up Roxanne Soriano for a photo.



Men's 6K run runner-up Raymund Tolentino, left, and champion Kosuke Sato are all smiles after getting their prizes.



From left, men's 6K run winners Marilou Carlos, Chiharu Sato, and Myla Vicencio pose for a group photo.



Whit Altizer shows his prizes in the men's 12K trail run race.



From left, Raymund Tolentino, Noe Valdisimo, Ivan Salas, and Andrew Estepa are all smiles after receiving their medals in the duathlon relay.



Race organizers Ricky Castro, left, and Manny Sitchon, right, join Top 3 duathlon winners Charlie Sendin, Butch Sublemente, and Mark Isip for a group photo during the awards ceremony.





**Serena versus  
Venus; Murray  
eliminated**

**PAGE 28**

# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Price check for  
Red Sox; Pujols  
done for season**

**PAGE 29**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Agape 1, GCA 1 share lead



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**A**gape Christian School 1 and Grace Christian Academy 1 took the early lead in the middle school division of the 2018-2019 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League after prevailing in their respective matches.



Agape 1 notched its second victory in as many games last Wednesday after defeating Seventh Day Adventist School at the latter's court in Chalan Kiya. Agape 1, which won its season debut last Tuesday against Saipan International School, 25-14, 23-25, 15-9, this time bagged the outright victory when it topped SDA in the first two sets, 25-20, 25-5. In the third set, SDA, which fell to a 1-1 record, avoided a shutout loss after recording a 15-5 win.

In its second triumph, Agape 1 again banked on David Zheng's impressive service game. He scored 14 points off his serves and added two more from spikes. Zheng teamed up with Bobby Bao in delivering the goods for the Torchbearers, as the latter recorded five aces. Jenny Lin, Meihui Ou, and Elvira Zhang also contributed aces in Agape 1's triumph over SDA, which failed to make a follow-up of their season-opening win over Agape 2.

**See AGAPE 1 on Page 30**

## Blue Ayuyus vs Matao in opener



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Men's National Team's Bo Barry, right, scans the field, while trying to dribble away from his defender during their training match against Shonan Bellmare in Japan last month. The CNMI will be playing in the the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, starting this Sunday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI and Guam' rivalry will be on spotlight this Sunday as the Blue Ayuyus and Matao play in the opening game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships



2019 Round 1 in Ulan Bator, Mongolia.

The CNMI and Guam men's national teams will collide in the 1pm match (3pm Saipan time) at the Mongolia Football Federation Stadium to begin their bid in the qualifying tournament that also features the host team and Macau. The winner of the qualifier will advance to Round 2 and play against host Chinese-Taipei, North Korea, and Hong Kong in the November tournament, while the second round top finisher will qualify in the next year's finals and challenge South Korea, Japan, and China.

Against Guam, the Blue Ayuyus will be fielding their youngest ever crew since the CNMI started competing in

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## MPU eyes 4th title in Pacific Ocean Cup

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REPORTER



MP United Football Club will try again to get its fourth title when it competes in the Pacific Ocean Cup 10 this weekend in Japan.

MP United left for the tournament hosted by its sister club Vivid Blue yesterday, bringing in 11 players and two coaches to battle the host team and two other squads. Suiting up for MP United U12 are Stephanie Kim, Jin Hee Woo, Geon Ho Song, Andrew Chung, Xavier Lee, William Lee, Garrett Weaver, Dev Bachani,



Kelly McCallion, Cosmo Hata, and Allen Won. Gene Weaver and Patrick McCallion will call the shots for the visiting team.

The MP United U12 players will have their first game against Vivid Blue this Saturday, while their second match will be versus Veluwe. For its last game, MP United will

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players and coaches of MP United Football Club's U12 team pose for a photo at the departure area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport before leaving for Japan yesterday to compete in the Pacific Ocean Cup 10.